

Sun Bear News

October 2, 2015
We Love Autumn!



What do stuffed animals and community helpers have in common? Our SUN BEAR class these last two weeks! From September 21 – 25, children adopted a stuffed animal. After naming their pet, they made them a beaded leash, a food placemat, and a house. Sun Bears dictated stories with their stuffed animal as the main character. We also enjoyed the following books during circle (and learned about sequels in the process): Corduroy, A Pocket For Corduroy, Knufflebunny, Knufflebunny Too, and Knufflebunny Free.

During the week of September 28 – October 2, “Community Helpers” was the theme. Sun Bears gained a better understanding of mail carriers, construction workers, recyclers, medical personnel including doctors and dentists, and police officers. We will extend some of our study of community helpers next week with a visit from the Clayton Fire Department. On Friday, Sun Bears walked to the campus post office, bought stamps, and mailed a special “surprise.” (Watch for its arrival either tomorrow or next Monday.) Books we’ve enjoyed this week include The Jolly Postman Or Other People’s Letters, I Stink, and Officer Buckle and Gloria.





Watching the children dive into each of the daily center choices reveals their interests and strengths. This year's Sun Bear class loves the block area, where wooden pieces of various sizes and shapes become bridges, skyscrapers, rocket ships and trains. Five or six children may start with the blocks, two or three may stay for more than ten minutes or so, with the rest transferring their curiosity to smaller manipulatives like Legos and pyramid blocks. Other children prefer starting with an art, science or writing project. By the end of choice time, though, we find that almost every Sun Bear has had a taste from our theme's "smorgasbord."

Here are a few upcoming dates of which to be aware:

- October 6: Fire Safety Day (Visit from Clayton Fire Department)
- October 8: Picture Day
- October 9: Professional Development Day: NO SCHOOL
- October 10: Open House (11:30 am – 1:30 pm)
- October 28: Halloween Celebration
- October 29, 30: Parent Conferences

*Until next time,
Colleen & Katie*