



*Ryan, Darren and Louie play with intense “gravity” during a game of “Connect Four.”*

March 11, 2016

## Sun Bear Newsletter



*Penny's  
wrecking  
ball*



*Samuel's  
scale*



*Ryan  
D.'s  
wind  
chime*

### Force & Motion

Sun Bears got a taste for physical science last week during our “Force & Motion” theme. They learned about magnets, ramps, wind, gravity and wheels within our art, writing, building and science centers. Our main goals in planning this week were to introduce the children to the ideas that **force** is a type of energy to do work and **motion** is the change in position of an object because of a force.

For four and five-year-olds, those principles were experienced hands-on by knocking down foam blocks with “wrecking balls” (a tennis ball in a pair of pantyhose), balancing the scales with assorted teddy bear figures, making wind chimes out of beads and pipe cleaners, and planning strategy in a game of Connect Four.

Magic by Shel Silverstein

Sandra's seen a leprechaun,  
 Eddie touched a troll,  
 Laurie danced with witches once,  
 Charlie found some goblins' gold  
 Donald heard a mermaid sing,  
 Susy spied an elf,  
 But all the magic I have known  
 I've had to make myself.

Homemade Boat by Shel Silverstein

This boat that we just built is just fine—  
 And don't try to tell us it's not.  
 The sides and the back are divine—  
 It's the bottom I guess we forgot...



*Group project poster based on  
 "It's Raining Pigs and Noodles"  
 by Jack Prelutsky*

During our Poetry Unit this week, we were inspired by the poems of Mother Goose, Shel Silverstein and Jack Prelutsky to create some original "Sun Bear Poems." Shel's two poems above, for example, helped us to create the following two poems as a group. In the first, children brainstormed what magic they would like to make and what it would look like. In the second, Sun Bears remembered what they have forgotten, what they would like to forget, and how they feel when they forgot.

My Magic by the Sun Bears

**Fighting for good  
 Winning  
 Powerful**

**We turn ourselves into magical fairies, Power Rangers and Star Wars heroes  
 Strong**

Sometimes I Forget by the Sun Bears

**Fine, good  
 I forget to go to the bathroom  
 I would like to forget to go to bed or have nightmares  
 Okay**

And here's one from the Sun Bear teachers, Miss Katie and Miss Colleen:

A happy spring break is our wish for you  
 With travels, home fun: maybe a nap or two?  
 See you soon—we'll catch up on March twenty-one,  
 And learn all about Sun Bears' adventures and fun!