

Washington University  
Nursery School

## Sun Bears

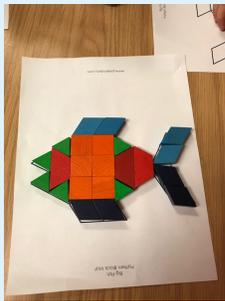
*We believe in learning  
through play.*



*Sun Bears running the “length of a blue whale”—100 feet.*

April 5, 2018

## SCHOOL YEAR 2017 - 2018



### Upcoming Important Dates:

**CONFERENCE PREP DAY**  
Friday, April 6 (No School)

**DEWEY'S PIZZA NIGHT**  
Tuesday, April 10

**PARENT/TEACHER  
CONFERENCES**  
(No School)  
Thursday and Friday,  
April 19 & 20

Sun Bears completed the popular OCEAN theme last week, continuing their study of amazing creatures and other wonders of the world underseas. We painted with “salt paint” (salt, liquid starch and liquid watercolor) to create ocean pictures with a sandy texture. We played several math games with dice and shells to practice counting and one-to-one correspondence. Pattern blocks became colorful fish figures, and Sun Bears designed some beautiful ones. We read Whale Song by Dyan Sheldon, The Whales by Cynthia Rylant and Humphrey the Lost Whale: A True Story by Wendy Tokuda and Richard Hall. The class also measured 100 feet—the length of a blue whale—on Francis Field and then ran along the expanse. We loved the Sun Bears’ curiosity during this theme.



We have been studying spring themes in the Sun Bear classroom and learned about ladybugs and other insects. With the prompt, “An insect has three body parts and six legs,” we provided playdoh and other objects (wood chips, uncooked spaghetti, googly eyes) for each child to create his/her own insect.

At circle that day, Miss Katie described how museums display art creations and how visitors to museums walk slowly and view the artwork respectfully. We then set up the “Sun Bear Insect Museum”, and the kids had the chance to see their friend’s imaginary insect up close. We overheard several positive comments from the children, such as, “I really liked that one—it had eyes close together like real bugs,” and “I couldn’t pick my favorite, I liked them all.”

## SPOTLIGHT ON: SPANISH



WUNS is fortunate to have several enrichment programs that add to the learning in the regular classrooms. Children have Music, Art, Spanish and “Nature on the Move.” Spanish is led weekly by Miss Colleen, and she introduces vocabulary and short conversational sentences through music and games. The lessons are posted on the website: (<https://nurseryschool.wustl.edu/curriculum/enrichment-programs/>), in case your child comes home singing a tune in Spanish and you’d like a translation!

*Until next time,  
Miss Katie and Miss Colleen*