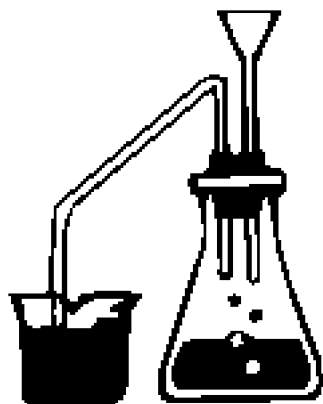


# Tuscan Party

The Tuscan Party and Silent Auction was great fun. Thanks to all of you who solicited donations and made donations of items and services for the auction. Thanks to all who attended. Your presence made the evening great.

Special thanks are reserved for our parent committee members. When you see Drenea Starbuck (overall chair and chair of the auction sub-group), Amy Namba (chair of the party sub-group), and committee members Sarah Bachman (Evite Queen), Jake Frisch, Stephanie Jefferies, Katie Meeks, and Monet Maniego, please congratulate them. Thank you also goes to our staff who created wonderful events and items for their classes. Some children will experience auction fun in the weeks ahead. Please thank Ms. Shirley who prepared most of the sweet delights that were served.

Staff also provided oversight throughout the evening in our childcare rooms. Thanks to Cora and Sarah, daughters of Miss Jennifer, and Julia and Claire, daughters of Miss Suzanne, for giving their evening to our children. We do not yet have all our expenses tallied, but gross sales totaled \$3030.00.



# KIDS' DISCOVERY DAYS Newsletter

March, 2010



## Director's Notes

### Calendar

#### March

11, Thursday Clean-up Day --Come join other parents cleaning your child's classroom.

29 - 4/2 No Classes - Spring Break

#### April

5, Monday Classes resume

9, 10 Kids' Spring Clothing Sale -- You may bring donations starting April 5.  
Friday, Saturday

20, Tuesday Family Ice Cream Social and Science  
6:30-8:30 PM Night -- Mad Science will come to give a demonstration.

28, 29 Class Pictures

19 - 5/2 Plant Sale Orders Taken

Thanks again to everyone for your support of the **Tuscan Party and Silent Auction**, our new fundraising effort.

We welcome your comments and suggestions to help us plan this event in future years.

# Preschool 3

Marsha Schultze 303-423-8638

Katie Meeks 303-419-5574

March is all about animals in Preschool 3. We will begin by taking a look at bears and other animals that are emerging from hibernation with the approach of spring.

During the week of March 8 - 12, your child can bring his or her favorite play animal to our KDD Animal Hospital. We will practice caring for animals, make veterinarian headbands and veterinarian bags. Look for our charts in the hallway; the children will share their favorite pets and practice early math skills by charting their favorites.

Our discussions, books, and activities will center around animals and baby animals this month. We'll make animal puppets and sing "B-I-N-G-O" and "Old MacDonald." For St. Patrick's Day, the children will create a rainbow that will end

## Toddler News

Jennifer Potter 303-422-2784

Wow, February flew by! I enjoyed talking to everyone at conferences. This year has been fun, and it has been wonderful getting to know all of your families! In February, we did some fun activities with hearts, love, and valentines. The children decorated many hearts, and I hope they enjoyed looking through their cards from friends. We also did some fun music activities with our teddy bears with Miss Anne. I am impressed with how much participation we have in music. The children love going to see Miss Anne each week!

In March, we will focus our theme around green, St. Patrick's Day, and transportation. We will make various crafts with the color green. We will also do many activities with trains, cars, buses, and planes. As the weather gets warmer, we will try to spend more time outside. Thank you for sending appropriate gear for the cold. We have had a lot of snow this year but have managed to get outside most days. The children enjoy being outside and need to be able to play in the snow and sand even when the weather isn't perfect. It helps give them some different sensory activities that are good for their learning.

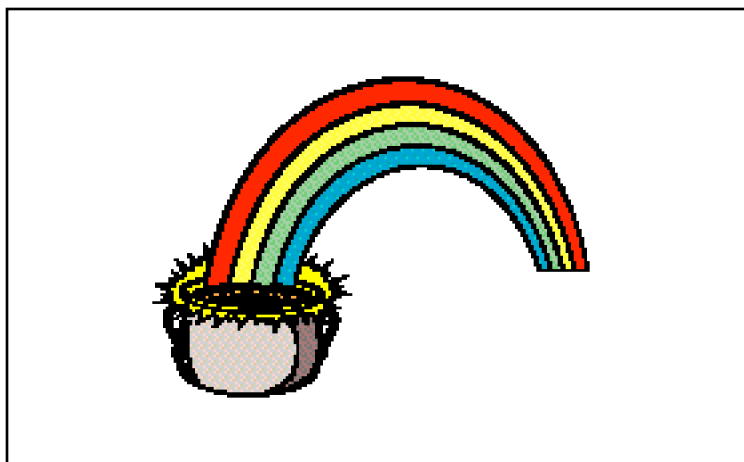
I will still take a family picture if you would like to send in one.

in a pot of gold coins that they have made. Of course, each of them is the true treasure! To wrap up our animal unit, we'll have some fun with bunnies, chicks, and eggs.

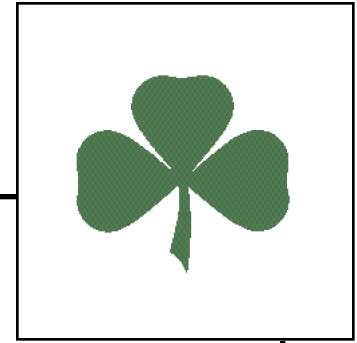
For science, we'll investigate what happens when an egg is placed in vinegar. It's a great surprise!

We'll also continue to work with sequencing,

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## Preschool 4/5 Fridays

On February 5, our Friday Class made beautiful valentine cards for someone special to us. We sang valentine songs, read valentine books, and played Valentine Bingo. Learning to follow directions and to measure ingredients to prepare a bag of valentine treats was a new experience for some of us.

Because February is National Dental Health Month, Dental Hygienist April Sustad talked to our class and to Miss Lisa's class on February 19 about good dental health. A variety of songs and hands-on activities helped us learn about brushing our teeth and about eating nutritious foods. April gave the children toothbrushes and flossers to further encourage them to take good care of their teeth at home.

The Olympic Games were held in our Friday Class on February 26, with the children participating in the KDD version of Olympic sporting events! The *Weekly Reader* provided interesting information about the games, and the children were invited to illustrate any aspect of the Olympics with wet chalk. Each of our little champions was awarded a medal at the end of our school day!

**Mary Fanyo 303-425-6143**

## 1, 2, 3, Slow Down Before You Go

One great tool for handling anger is to teach children to count to "three," and not to react immediately.

For some children, this may mean counting to a higher number.

They can be like turtles and go inside until they feel better. (Maryln Appelbaum)

It is also important to teach them appropriate ways to respond to others when they are angry, such as by saying, "I don't like it when you . . .," or "Please don't \_\_\_\_\_, I don't like it."



Continued from Page 2

patterning, and counting using plastic eggs and with jelly beans.

March may come in like a lion and go out like a lamb; please continue to pack winter gear. Playing outside is wonderful for children in so many ways. Running, climbing, and riding

tricycles help to develop a sense of their body in space. They release energy and create opportunities to interact with other children socially. Outside air is healthful and refreshing!

Thank you for the time and attention you give when you are here for your helper days.

## Preschool Two/Three

It was great to see so many of you at conferences. It is always nice to discuss the progress that your child has made during this year. Even if you were unable to attend the conferences, please feel free to call us if you have concerns about your child. It was also great to see some of you at the Silent Auction.

For March, we will focus on spring and nursery rhymes. These old favorites are the foundation of early literacy.

Miss Suzanne's class will have PJ Day on March 15. This is the day after the change to Daylight Savings Time, and we understand how hard it is to get up and out of the door. Your child is invited to wear pajamas and slippers to school, but please keep in mind that we will still go out on this day.

**March Songs:** "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star"  
"Row, Row, Row Your Boat"

### March Finger Play:

Ten little muffins in the muffin shop,  
All dressed up with sugar on top.  
\_\_\_\_\_ came in with a penny to pay,  
Bought that muffin and he ran away.

With the weather getting warmer, it is easy to forget to bring along coats, hats, and mittens. But as anyone who has lived in Colorado for very long knows, the weather is very changeable. Please continue to send warm clothing so outside time is always enjoyable.

Also, it is so helpful to us if you can label all items with at least the child's last name. Sometimes the kids get confused as to which coat is theirs, and it is nice to have the answer.  
**Cindy 303-469-1160 Suzanne 303-424-5806**



## Preschool 4/5

**Shirley Pierce 303-420-8353**

In March, we'll learn one more dinosaur song and do another dinosaur craft project.

We'll start taking turns grinding dry eggshells with mortars and pestles to build fine motor strength. Along with this fine motor activity, children will continue practicing writing their names using only the initial upper case letter followed by all lower case (a real challenge for some!).

Children will hear folk tales from Africa and South America and learn about some important African American historical figures. We'll also learn a new French song. The children have done really well learning, remembering, and pronouncing the words to the French songs that we've already sung. Learning new sounds helps develop muscles used to speak and improves children's speech.

Our new easel paintings will use blue and yellow to create more beautiful and interesting combinations to decorate walls in our classroom and in your homes. We'll also paint rainbows with both watercolors and finger paints. An easy way to remember the order of colors in a rainbow is "Roy G. Bv"-- "**R** (red) **O** (orange) **Y** (yellow), **G.** (green) **B** (blue) **V** (violet).

Thanks again to parents and grandparents for the great snacks and classroom help!

## Preschool 3/4 Miss Lisa 303-420-2888

We will have fun this month learning about dinosaurs, St. Patrick's Day, and spring. Our room will be filled with dinosaur activities including songs, stories, puzzles, lacing shapes, sorting trays, stencils, and books. This is a fun topic, and children really enjoy it.

We will also talk about St. Patrick's Day and play "Leprechaun, Leprechaun, Where's Your Gold?" Spring will finally be here later in the month, and we will certainly be ready to celebrate!

Our science activities will include baking soda and vinegar volcanoes, along with some interesting weather experiments. The children will have the opportunity to paint at the easels and do stamp painting. We will also try painting with Jell-O! Our Friday Friends visits are scheduled for 3/5 and 3/19.