

Director's Notes

We are enjoying your children this fall. We thank you for sharing them with us for these few hours each week. While we do not have formal conferences until February, you are always welcome to ask for one when you have concerns and questions that can't be handled at drop off time or pick up. Please call your child's teacher at home or through the office to set up something.

Good nutrition and proper rest are both important for happy, healthy children. Get them ready for a great day by having a bedtime ritual and a set bedtime that make sure they anticipate a fun, relaxing evening. They can go to bed expecting to have a great sleep and another great day when they wake in the morning.

In the morning, do allow enough time for a good breakfast. It may be easier to give children a choice of breakfast items as part of the bedtime ritual to help mornings go smoothly. A mix of protein (milk, eggs, cheese, meat) and carbs (whole grain cereal or bread, fruit) is best. The carbohydrates give energy to jump start the day, while proteins keep them going strong until the next meal.



KIDS' DISCOVERY DAYS Newsletter

October, 2009



Director's Notes

Calendar

October

09, 10
Fri., Sat.

Children's Fall Clothing Sale--Bring donations starting October 6. Keep saving those clothes, toys, baby items, and things for the KDD Chic Moms' Boutique!

14, 15
Wed. Thu.

Individual School Pictures Taken
Students not in class on these days may come at 8:30 AM for photos only.

16, Friday

No classes - Staff Training Day

28, 29
Wed., Thu.

Halloween Costume Parade--Students not in class these days may come at 11:00 for the parade.

November

2 - 6

"Make It" plates, cups, bowls made with parent's help during class time.

7 Sat. Date Night and Silent Auction, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

12 Thu. Classroom Clean-up Night, 6:30 - 7:30 PM

2-20 Holiday Greenery Orders Taken

23-27 Mon -Fri **No Classes-Thanksgiving Break**

Our Parent Book Swap is now located on the shelves under the frog tank.

We have been busy in the Preschool 3/4 class. The children have enjoyed seeing old friends and making new ones. Everyone has adjusted well to the new routine.

The class talked about feelings and participated in a survey about what makes them happy. You can read their responses on the lists in the hallway.

Apple tasting was another fun activity in our class. We had fun tasting apples and voting on the color of apple that each of us liked best.

We learned about the letter sounds of **A** and counted to 100 (with help) on our abacus.

Music class with Miss Ann was a big hit with the children. They played the guitar and triangle, sang, and danced with scarves.

Toddler News

Well, we have gotten off to a good start this year. I think everyone has adjusted and is becoming comfortable with our school routines. Our classes are small, and I think this has helped the children ease into it. We have several openings, so if you have any friends interested, let them know about us.

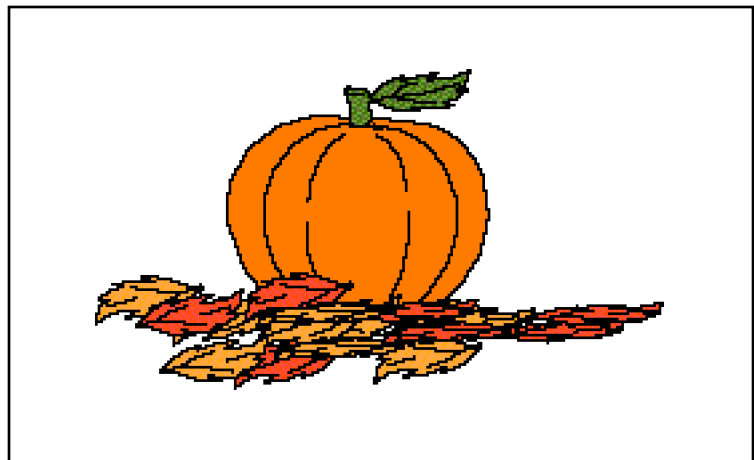
During September, we got used to our schedule and routines. We did some crafts with apples and friendships. We painted apples and did some tissue paper art. In October, we will focus our themes around autumn and Halloween. Some of our crafts will include leaf collages and several Halloween projects. We will make pumpkins, ghosts, funny monsters, and do some art with witches' hats. We will also paint some skeletons and work with orange play dough.

In our music class, we will do several fun Halloween songs. Please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns. Thank you for sharing your wonderful children with us!

Our first Friday Friends visit was a success. The children were able to sit in a wheelchair and walk with a walker at circle time. They visited with birds and fish in the reception area before meeting the seniors.

We talked about our families with the seniors and made a giant family tree! Leonard, the resident dog, even came to visit! Our October trips are scheduled for October 2 and October 23.

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Jennifer Potter 303-422-2784

October song
Trick or Treating
(to tune of "Are You Sleeping?")

Trick or treating,
Trick or treating.
Boo, boo, boo!
Boo, boo, boo!
Trick or treating,
Trick or treating,
I scare you! I scare you!

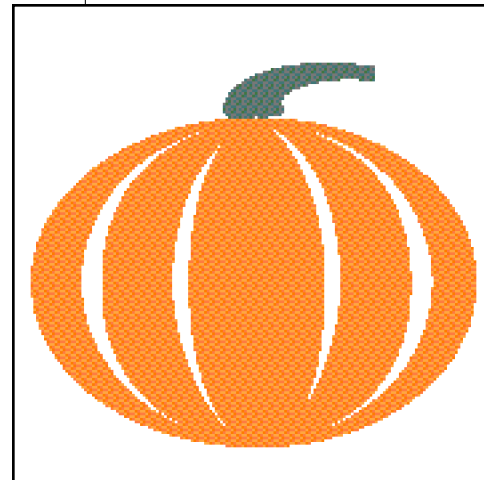


Community Resources

While we are having this gorgeous fall weather, try a picnic and stroll along the nature trails at Majestic View Nature Center, 7030 Garrison Street.

Miss Shirley's and Miss Lisa's classes will attend the Arvada Center on October 21 and 22 to see the play, *Honk*.

Other families may want to check out this production based loosely on the story, "The Ugly Duckling." The book, *Honk*, is available at the Arvada Center Gift Shop and is a charming, well illustrated tale of a would-be ballerina swan.



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During October, we will have fun with counting, fall colors and leaves, fire safety, pumpkins, and Halloween.

The fire fighters will visit on Friday, October 9.

I will be out of the classroom October 7 - October 10. Miss Kari will be teaching for me Wednesday - Friday that week.

Since our weather can be unpredictable this time of year, please remember to send a sweater or jacket with your child.

Preschool Two/Three

Preschool Two/Three has settled into our routine. The tearful moments have become much shorter, and everyone is having a great time. The kids had fun in September painting, and tearing paper was a big hit. This skill requires great fine motor skill and is a wonderful way to help with early writing. We also had fun on our leaf hunt.

This month, one of our parents found a fossil and kindly brought it to our class for our science area. The kids got to have a great “hands on” science experience, thanks to a dad’s keen eye and sense of what children find interesting. If you come across something that you think the children would be interested in, please feel free to bring it to class.

This month, our themes will be fall, pumpkins, owls, spiders, and Halloween. We will always focus on the festive part of this holiday without getting too scary. We will continue to paint and create wonderful pieces of art to keep on your refrigerators. Our color will be orange, and our shape is a square.

Our song for the month will be “The Itsy Bitsy Spider,” but we will add “The Big Old Hairy Spider” and change our voice levels. We will also sing the following song to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell.”

Some spiders like to crawl. (repeat)
Spiders, spiders everywhere,
Some spider like to crawl.

We will substitute other actions such as run, spin, etc. We will work on playing “Ring Around the Rosie.” Please feel free to call if you have questions or concerns.
Cindy 303-469-1160 Suzanne 303-424-5806

Preschool 4/5

Shirley Pierce 303-420-8353

September went by fast, but we’ve done several art/craft projects and learned a lot about ocean creatures.

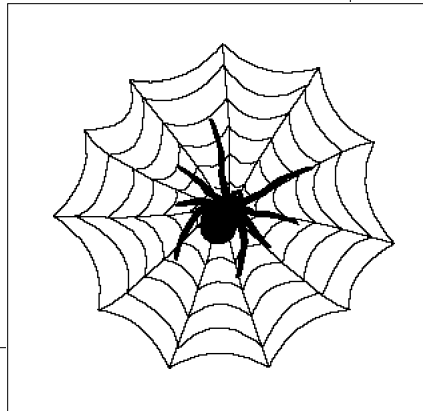
Our tiny duck and turtle are still absorbing water and growing; we’ve charted their progress day by day. When they have reached maximum size, we’ll remove them from the water table and continue to measure them as the water evaporates and they shrink.

We sang the song, “Five Little Ducks,” and after everyone was familiar with the words, we began changing the animals (five little crabs, five little fish), the actions, and the sounds that mother made. The children didn’t miss a beat in making the transitions.

October is always a fun month for our class. We’ll read about seed spreading and have examples of various tree and other types of seeds on display.

We’ll learn about nocturnal animals, including bats, opossums, foxes, spiders, and owls; seasonal changes, including why leaves change colors and drop; and we’ll read some “scary” stories that always come out OK! We’ll begin singing fall themed songs, as well.

Part of learning to read is phonemic awareness, so we’ve already started substituting different letter sounds for the initial letter sound in our names. We’re also rhyming names and reading a lot of rhyming books.



Preschool Three

Preschool 3 is off to a great start! The children are learning our classroom routines and making new friends every day. This month, we will continue children to catch their coughs in their elbows and to wash hands frequently.

Our fall themes will incorporate the changing seasons, bears, fire safety, bats, pumpkins, and spiders.

We are honored to work with your lovely children every day, and we thank you for your active participation and nutritious snacks. Please call us if you have questions or ideas to share.

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