

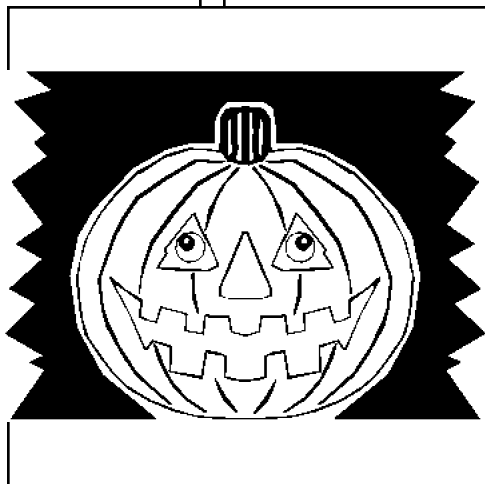
Director's Notes

I hope you and your child are feeling settled in and secure at KDD. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask the teacher or me. We don't schedule formal parent/teacher conferences until February, but we are always happy to meet with you if you would like a time to chat about your child's school experience or development.

The clothing sale is just a week away. We accept children's clothes and toys (including larger items such as bikes and yard structures) and infant care items including furniture, strollers, etc. Maternity clothes are also welcome. Bring your donations beginning **Monday**. If you can volunteer a little time while your child is in class next week, please call Karen at 303-940-3219.

Please turn off your cell phones or leave them in the car on your helper day. We want you to be present with the children.

Check out our child and parent library shelves in the hall. Sign out books on the clipboard.
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KIDS' DISCOVERY DAYS Newsletter

October, 2008



Director's Notes

Calendar

October

- 10, 11 Children's Fall clothing Sale
Friday, Saturday Bring donations starting October 6.
- 15, 16 *Individual* School Pictures Taken
Wednesday, Thursday Students not scheduled in class on these days may come at 8:30 AM for photos only. Order forms coming soon.
- 23, Thursday No classes - Staff Training Day
- 24, Friday No classes - Jeffco Mini Break
- 29,30 Halloween Costume Parade
Wednesday, Thursday Students not in class these days may come at 11:00 for the parade.

November

- 4, Tuesday Election Day Bake Sale - selling baked goods to voters. You can begin baking now and freeze items for the sale.
- 3 - 7 "Make It" plates, cups, bowls,
M.-F. made with parent's help during class time
- 13 Classroom Clean-up Night
Thur. Join other parents deep cleaning your child's classroom, 6:30-7:30 PM
- 3 - 25 Holiday Greenery Orders Taken
- 26, 27, 28 No Classes
Wed. - Fri. Thanksgiving Break

Preschool Two/Three

Preschool 2/3 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, 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 the refrigerator.

Toddler News

Well, the first month of school has gone well! It has been nice getting to know all the children and working with all of you parents. We have had an easy adjustment for the most part this year. I think everyone has settled in and is enjoying the school routine. In September, we did several crafts around the theme of apples. We decorated them with tissue paper, colored them, and painted them to hang in our classroom.

In October, we will focus our theme around fall colors and Halloween. We will do some crafts with leaves and autumn trees. We will also do several Halloween crafts, including pumpkins, ghosts, witches' hats, bats, and spiders. Our Halloween parades will be on Wednesday and Thursday, October 29 and 30. The parade will begin at 11:00. If your child attends school on Fridays only, you can come to the parade either of the two days and join in. Just bring your children's costumes to school and we will get them dressed up and ready. The Halloween parade is always a fun and cute event!

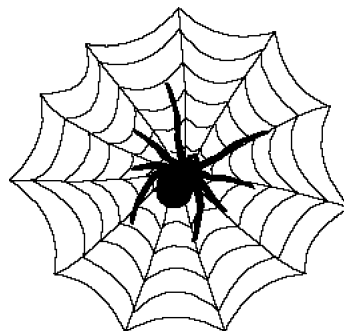
Please continue to dress children appropriately for the weather and to apply sunscreen before school each day. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions or concerns. **Jennifer Potter 3) 42202784**

Our song for October will be "The Itsy Bitsy Spider," but we will add "The Big Old Hairy Spider" and change our voice levels.

We will also sing a spider song to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell."

(See Page 3 for the song's words.)

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Preschool Three

We are settling into our school routine. The weather is changing, giving us the opportunity to notice and discuss those differences that make the seasons. Please be sure that your child has the proper outerwear to cope with the weather, as we will try to spend some time outside every day.

During September, the Preschool Three class has been exploring and discovering colors. We have identified ten basic colors and have blended primary colors to make secondary colors.

Finger-painting with *Mouse Paint*, a book by Ellen Stoll Walsh, was a popular project. You may wish to check this book out of the library and see what the fun was about.

In one of the group games that we play, the children look for colors around the room and in one another's clothing. This would be a fun one for you and your child any time. Thank you for encouraging them.

Our class has lots of train lovers, so we enjoy constructing and pretending with trains. *The Little Engine that Could* will be the basis of dramatic play later in the year.

Penny Owings 303-421-2365

Director's Notes

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Thanks for the great snacks you have been bringing on helper days. We especially appreciate your following the published snack list.

Remember, no grapes for toddlers, and all grapes for preschoolers must be cut in half.

No peanut butter or related items. Look for a copy of the snack list in the inserts to this newsletter.

Parents, be sure to take a look at the parent book swap box. Take one, bring one.



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October Song

Some spiders like to crawl,
Some spiders like to crawl.
Spiders, spiders everywhere,
Some spiders like to crawl.

We will substitute other actions for crawl, such as run, spin, etc.

We will also work on playing "Ring Around the Rosy."

Please feel free to call us if you have concerns or questions.

Cindy 303-469-1160
Suzanne 303-424-5806

Preschool 3/4 Lisa Newkirk 303-420-2888

We made it through the month of September, and the children are settling into the class routine. We had fun getting to know one another, making up our class rules, using our imaginations in music class, and doing an apple taste test. Our Friday Friends visit was a great success. We enjoyed talking about our families and making a huge family tree. Our oldest Friday Friend is Rosalie. She celebrated her 100th birthday with us last year!

During October, we will continue our counting and color activities, go on an autumn nature walk (on the church grounds), learn about leaves, spiders, bats, pumpkins, and Halloween. We will ... on the fun and avoid the scary during Halloween! We will also talk about fire safety and have a visit from the Arvada Fire Department on Friday, October 10. Our Friday Friends field trips are scheduled for October 3 and October 17.

Here are some helpful reminders to make the year run smoothly.

1. Remember to send appropriate clothing for the weather. (Crocs and sandals can be dangerous on the playground!)
2. Snack should be from approved snack list in the Parent Handbook.
3. Please turn off your cell phone when you are the parent helper. You may leave the school number in case of emergency - 303-431-6004 ext. 238
4. Most children will behave differently when their parents are helpers. Teachers know this and will gladly intervene while you assist other children.

Please remember that you are welcome to call me at home if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks for your help and support!

Preschool 4/5 Shirley Pierce 303-420-8353

Our class has been enjoying reading, talking, doing art, and playing games about ocean creatures. We've worked on understanding the differences between fish and ocean mammals.

When reading the book, *Octopus Under the Sea*, children filled in rhyming words at the end of phrases. We also found rhymes in *The Clumsy Crab*.

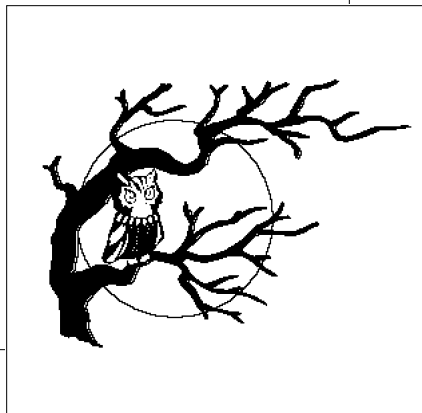
To help develop phonemic awareness, we've been practicing saying our own and others' names beginning with different consonants--right now, the first letter of the day of the week that class is meeting.

October is a good time to study nocturnal creatures, and we'll have stories and posters about them, including bats, opossums, foxes, raccoons, owls, and spiders.

We'll observe fall changes and discuss conditions that lead to changing leaf colors. We'll also discuss seeds and seed spreading. *The Tiny Seed* is a fiction book that explores spreading seeds. We'll also make science books about seeds.

While reading, talking about, and looking at spiders, we'll recite "Little Miss Muffett."

Thanks to all parents for helping us to get off to a great start this school year!



Preschool 4/5 Fridays

Our class enjoyed "getting to know" each other on September 5 by sharing family photos, their ages, favorite foods, and special activities. I later put photos and information into a class book called, *Getting to Know You*, which we will use throughout the school year. The children also became acquainted experimenting at the water table.

On September 12, we explored various types of transportation through puzzles, toys, dramatizations, and songs. After listening to Mem Fox's book, *Whoever You Are*, the children moved wet chalk to the music of Grieg's "Morning Mood" to create interesting art and to think about their feelings.

The last Friday of the month found us enjoying an apple theme, including apple print art, apple bookmarks, apple games, apple tasting, and, of course, apple books. We made "apple pie in a cup" for snack and also tasted Miss Mary's homemade apple butter.

Mary Fanyo 303-425-6143