



# Discovery Zone Gazette

## Rainy Day Fun For Infants

The Infants began April with an Easter theme which worked on a variety of developmental skills. They listened to Easter books and songs and also participated in a sensory experience as they made bunny handprints. The children also enjoyed playing with plastic eggs and rolling them back and forth to work on physical development.

Learning about rainbows was the next theme in the Infant Room. The children practiced large motor skills as they "reached for rainbows" and danced to a rainbow song. The children enjoyed a sensory experience as they finger painted rainbows. They really en-



joyed this theme and loved exploring all the colors of the rainbow.

Next, the infants learned about rain. The children built language skills as they enjoyed the songs *Eensy Weensy Spider* and *Rain is Falling*. The Infants also made finger-paint raindrops which are hanging around our room. It's a great visual for the children to focus on when the fresh air comes in and blows them around!

To end the month, the infant class focused on ducks and baby animals. The children built language skills as they listened to books and songs such as 5 Little Ducks, Animal Babies and Three Little Chicks. The infants also built cognitive



skills by making duck footprints and imitating the animal sounds and noises.

Next month the Infant Class will explore flowers and work on some special projects!

We would like to welcome Liana, Ellie and their families to our classroom. We would like to congratulate Michayla and Lucas on their transition to the Toddler Classroom. We wish Jenna and her family the best as she moves to the Toddler Room.

Please remember to look at your daily logs to see if any items are needed and to pack extra clothes accordingly.

## Discovery Zone Learning Center

### April 2010

#### Important Dates:

- 5/14 Preschool A-Jump-a-thon
- 5/17-5/21 Toddler Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 5/20 & 5/21- Early dismissal from Elementary school
- 5/25- Dentist Special for Preschoolers
- 5/28 Preschool B Jump-a-thon
- 5/31-DZLC CLOSED

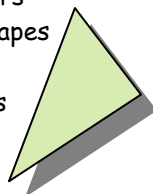
## Toddlers Get Creative With Shapes

The Toddler Room would like to congratulate Corey and Lauren on mastering the potty! We would also like to wish Maggie and Ava very Happy 2nd Birthdays this month! Welcome Jenna and her family to our class!

The toddlers began April with a theme on Spring. The children used fine motor skills to make fingerprint

pussy willows, assemble a butterfly puzzle and decorated an Easter egg with squares of colorful material. They also hunted for eggs outside.

Next, the toddlers learned about shapes while making a shape snake. This group project brought many



smiles when team work was being used. Next, the children used their creativity to make a fish from shapes.

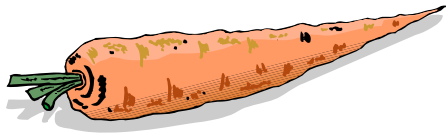
The toddlers spent time discovering and inspecting different seeds and planted them in pots of dirt. They assembled the parts of a flower from roots to blossom. The children also painted with silk flowers.

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## Toddler News Continued

During the theme on fruits and vegetables, the children explored carrots and celery and stamped with them on paper to make creative art.



The children played the apple in the worm game using large motor skills and hand eye coordination to toss pretend fruits and veggies in a basket.

The last theme for the month was insect week. The children made a 3D spider using glue and glitter, they assembled a lady bug and participated in some worm painting and created an

egg carton caterpillar.

In the month of May the toddlers will celebrate Cinco de Mayo, learn about circus animals, discover dinosaurs and build during construction week!

## Spring Has Sprung in Preschool B

During April, Preschool B learned about Easter, Spring, Plants, the Earth and Bugs.

Easter was a lot of fun. The children each created a story about their own Easter Bunny. This allowed them to form sentences and express their ideas. The children also enjoyed the Easter Egg Hunt as well as coloring eggs. The children turned their eggs into monsters.

Spring has sprung! During this week Preschool B created kites. They were able to work on their cutting and num-

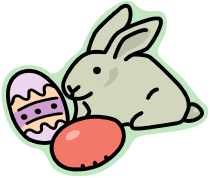
ber skills. Preschool B had so much fun planting flowers and it allowed them to engage in scientific inquiry. Check our flowers out, they are on top of the cubbies! During this week the children also learned about the life cycle of flowers. The children were able to use paint and glitter to represent a seed sprouting to a flower.

We love the Earth and during this week the children enjoyed a sensory experience as they played with real earthworms and dirt. Preschool B also planted grass inside of potatoes. This allowed children to interact with

their peers and practice the scientific process.

Next Preschool B went a little buggy. The children built fine motor skills as they used string to weave around paper plates to create a spider web. Our butterflies are smelling (and looking) great! The children cut out butterflies and used potpourri to decorate.

During the month of May Preschool B will learn about nursery rhymes, reptiles and being healthy. We would like to wish Lexie a Happy Birthday on May 3rd!



## Preschool A Saves the Earth

During the month of April Preschool A's themes were Easter, Spring, Recycling and Weather/Seasons.

To end March and begin April, Preschool A enjoyed a theme on Easter. Jellybean counting was used for the children to practice counting and recognizing numbers. They counted out the correct number of jellybeans and glued them down (they even got to



taste some!) Another activity the children enjoyed was dying Easter Eggs. They chose their own color, dipped them in the dye and observed the changes. The children got to paint their own hands and stamp them to look like bunnies. When they were dry they added eyes and a face to work on spatial awareness.

For the second week of April, preschoolers jumped into a spring theme. The children learned about the different parts of a flower by making their own and labeling the parts. The nature walk was very exciting for the chil-

dren, they collected a bunch of spring items to paint with. To practice shape recognition preschoolers created shape bird houses. They had to identify the shape then created a bird-house.

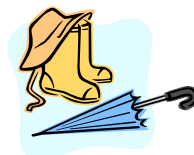
During the third week of April, Preschool A enjoyed another week on Spring! To practice letters the children used sunflower seeds to trace the beginning letter in their name. Preschool A enjoyed the flower squeeze painting the most. The children used colored glue bottles to trace the outline of a flower. The children learned about the scientific process this week as they drew flower pictures using oil and q-tips. When they finished the picture we set it in a tray of colored water and observed what happened to them.



For the fourth week of April, Preschool A learned all about recycling. Thank you so much to everyone who brought in recyclables. The children got to practice their fine motor skills by painting with soda cans and bottles.

They really enjoyed going on our garbage hunt to clean up the center. Another favorite project was the robots displayed in our classroom. They used all different boxes to put them together and also worked on being a team!

To end the month of April, Preschool A had a theme on weather and seasons. Fine motor skills were practiced a lot during this week as the children cut out kites and umbrellas. To work on listening skills the class played a special game called "Freeze! Melt!" outside. The children also made books about seasons.



The children learned sorting and classification skills as they sorted clothes according to season.

Check out the tadpoles in our math and science center, thanks to Ava!

During the month of May we will learn about insects, sports, nature and food groups.

## Center News

- A reminder to parents for birthday treats. Please remember to send in a healthy snack to celebrate your child's birthday!
- Classroom sign in and out sheets need to have times and initials **everyday**, thanks! Also please do not allow your children to write on the sheets they are kept for our records.



- A reminder to all parents to stick to your drop off and pick up times. We staff the building appropriately according to the times you registered for. If your drop off and pick up times need to change please see Amanda.
- Please remember to call the center if your child will be out for the day so that we can be properly staffed.
- Mr. Sun is getting stronger as the warmer days approach. Please pro-

vide your child with a spray sunscreen and the sunscreen form. Sunscreen should be applied in the morning, before coming to the center, as it takes about 20 mins. to set in.

- Discovery Zone's Parent-Teacher conferences are approaching. Please see your child's classroom for times and dates to sign up.
- **Reminder we will be closed on May 31st to observe Memorial Day.**



