

Chebeague Pre-K News – December 9, 2011

Melting crayons in leaf outlines, leaf printing and parts of a leaf puzzle and books concluded our plant studies. We have now transitioned back to animals with vertebrate/invertebrate sorts. Our focus for now is a bit more on invertebrates. If you start singing 'Head, thorax, abdomen, I'm inside out, no bones within...' then your child might be able to sing you the song about their six legged friends.

They have been working on their songs for the holiday concert and most are very eager to be on stage.

Following are a list of some of the new works that have been rotated in.

Practical Life/Art

- The food pyramid, food groups, healthy food choices
- Concept of a horizon in our Mayflower ship paintings

Sensorial

- Hexagon box
- Sound matching cylinders

Cultural/Science

- Europe is our new continent on the bulletin board. Periodically they get out all the continent folders and look at the images for each continent.
- Full Moons: Beaver Moon, Long Night Moon
- Invertebrate/Vertebrate
- Inside the Earth

Language

- We have continued our exploration of collage with our new author Lois Ehlert. Caitlin helped each of them with a collage inspired by the book Chicka, Chicka Boom Boom.
- Various matching works: Mayflower ships, inside/outside of fruits, uppercase to lower case letters

Math

- We have been doing a lot of graphing. We continue to graph the weather and we graphed how many pumpkin seeds it took to make our first initial. Graphing works with writing numerals and another with fall images (with a spinner) have both been popular.
- Sets basket with invertebrate shells and sea glass

Music:

- Haydn's Surprise Symphony has been a fun way to learn about *pp* and *ff*.

Peace

- The children have been introduced to Harriet Tubman and last Friday, Rosa Parks. With Harriet Tubman they learned about how the slaves ran away from mean masters and followed the drinking gourd (Big Dipper) north to freedom. Between Veteran's Day discussions and Harriet Tubman they asked what freedom meant. Tricky but hopefully they have begun to form some ideas.
- Thanksgiving had them sharing things for which they are thankful. Their replies were written on pumpkins that were added to the wall in our peace corner.

If it is muddy or wet out, please send in a second pair of shoes or slippers for indoors.

Calendar updates

- Dec. 13:** Winter concert - 5:30 at the hall.
- Dec. 13:** St. Lucia day
- Dec. 20:** First day of Hanukkah
- Dec. 22:** Island Commons residents join CIS students for lunch
- Dec. 23 - Jan. 2:** Winter Break, No School
- Jan. 6:** Island Commons visit
- Jan. 13:** Early release 11:30 - No lunch



They first colored a map of the Atlantic Ocean along with Europe and North America. Then they made a ship (section of egg carton, play dough, toothpick and packing foam for the sail) and sailed it across the ocean. More fun was had in the sensory table that was filled with blue rice for the occasion. (below)



Calendar job involves putting up the card for today's date and any preceding stay home days. In addition to the number sequence there is always a pattern for them to note.



Making a book of the inside of the earth (which they now know is very hot)



Their Mayflower collages are proudly displayed on the hall bulletin board.



Haydn wrote his surprise symphony because he was offended when the members of the court fell asleep after dinner. Ask your child about it.



Working with the food pyramid sort at circle



Doing more food sorting and exercising during work time.

*Thank you for sharing your children
Miss Nancy*