

# Chebeague Pre-K News – September 2011

Our Pre-K program is off to a great start. The children are learning to take care of their classroom. Each child has one of the following classroom jobs and keeps that job for the week: Calendar and line leader, Fish feeder and botanist, Attendance and lunch count, Meteorologist.

They are learning responsibility by bringing their B.E.A.R. books to school everyday and by putting any works away ready for another friend. They are all great at rolling up their work rugs.

Following are some of the works your child may have chosen.

## Practical Life/Art

- Latches puzzle
- Scooping beans
- Pouring beans and now split peas
- Spooning transfer of seeds
- Twisting- matching lids to containers
- Twisting - hex head bolt board
- Chrysalis wrapping around wooden caterpillar
- Lacing - pipe cleaners and shapes, lacing cylinder, lacing cards
- Squeezing transfer of plastic apples by the stem with tweezers
- Sunflower tweezing - the birds come to the window feeder and enjoy the seeds!
- Snapping frame, zipper frame
- Color Mixing with playdough, colored water and with paint at the easel. We started with yellow and red, then blue and yellow. They were so excited to make orange or green.
- Printing patterns with apples
- Flat map images of earth with blue crayon for water and gluing on sand for land
- Making paper mache planet earth
- Gardening - digging potatoes and beets
- Cooking - peeling apples

## Sensorial

- Rough/Smooth sorts

- Grading knobbed and knobless cylinders or pink cubes for size
- Grading brown rectangular prisms for thickness or red rods for length
- Feely bags matching objects
- Go Fish with red, yellow, and blue circles, squares, and triangles.
- Sound/No Sound sorting
- Geometric shapes with cards sorting and matching to solid, thick, and thin images.
- 3-D geometric solids I spy: focusing on sphere, cones, cubes, and cylinders

## Cultural

- sorting living/nonliving
- sorting animals to land, air, or water with toy animals
- Land/Air/Water book making
- Watching the metamorphosis of many chrysalises in the school's front flower bed. (very exciting)
- We have had one walk on the nature trail.

## Language

- Rhyming sorts
- Beginning sound sorts
- Our current author study is Eric Carle
- Story retelling of The Hungry Caterpillar and Brown Bear, Brown Bear What Do You See?
- Mat Man exercises for Handwriting

## Math

- Various works that involve counting and matching objects to the matching number.
- Our daily jobs involve graphing the weather, counting how many days of school so far, and putting up the monthly calendar day.
- Patterns with apples
- Coin sorting and matching
- Estimating jar - guess how many inside

- Graphing - apple tasting (they liked yellow delicious the best)
- Measurement - Caitlin came in and helped with a project using a balance scale with apples and fava beans.

**Music:**

- We start our music circles with *Copy Kitten*, which enables each child to come up with their own sounds or rhythm for us to copy. Other music circle songs have been *Tap Big Lines* from *Handwriting Without Tears*, *The Beanie Bag Dance*, *The Freeze*, *Bop till You Drop* and *Bounce Your Knees*.

**Peace**

- We have been reading the book: *Our Peaceful Classroom*.
- At our peace circles I share "Acts of Kindness" from our Kindness Jar. These are recorded observations from the past week.
- Silence game. A big one minute timer to watch while keeping their bodies silent.

*On muddy days please send your child in boots or send slippers. The children do a lot of their work on the floor and dirt and grass get in the way.*

**Calendar updates**

**Sept. 30** - Pre-K Island Commons field trip

**October 13:** Early Release 11:30 - no lunch

**October 14:** No School, Teacher Inservice



Fine motor /Concentration/Independence/ squeezing transfer with tweezers onto apple stems



Fine motor: Pin punching an apple.  
In the background -Sorting of land, air, water animals and using magnetic shapes to stamp letters.



The peace corner with the 1 minute silence timer



Language - letter sound sort with objects. They love to spin the top for /t/



Adding the water layer to her planet earth



Fine motor: squeezing seeds from the head of a giant sunflower



Deciding on the pattern before using the apples and paint.



Mat Man: Part of our handwriting program



A sets basket: sorting objects then counting to associate the group of objects to the correct numeral



.Harvesting potatoes

*Thank you for sharing your children  
Miss Nancy*