

Chebeague Pre-K- K News – October 8, 2010

Many weeks have passed since my last newsletter 9/17. Our Botany studies have focused on apples and various types of seeds. Our observations of our various basil plants - sun/water, no sun/water, sun/no water, and no sun/no water - led to a student comment, "This tells us that water is very important".... Perfect! We have sprouted red beans and fava beans and more recently have observed how stems move colored water up to the flower/leaves.

We have harvested carrots and potatoes from the school garden and enjoyed them in our school lunches. With the change in time for music we have been able to visit the nature trail on Tuesday afternoons.

We had a great field trip to the Boothbay Botanical Gardens with Long Island on September 23 and our first visit to the Island Commons was on September 24. We shared a poem, songs and movement with the residents.

BJ has been coming in on Wednesday afternoons for special art endeavors relating to the touch tank.

Practical Life/Art

- Sock matching and rolling
- Squeezing is patterns with unifix cubes
- Our new colors are red and yellow and there has been much delight in discovering orange.
- Squeezing - seed sorting
- Pouring - popcorn seeds
- Lacing - cookie rack weaving with felt
- Watercolors have been added to the art table.
- The K-2 class has made beautiful collages to accompany the story "The Little Yellow Leaf". The collages now adorn the hallway.
- We did a special activity with Sally Ballard printing our chosen apple patterns.
- We did some special nature art inspired by Lois Ehlert's *Leaf Man*.

Language

- Kindergarten popcorn words: is, in, are. The children seem to be enjoying their poems, especially Carl Sanburg's, *Fog*. Revisit them often.
- Our new author study is Lois Ehlert.
- Some new K spelling words have been mat, sat, fat, hat, it and sit.
- The K's have been working on a reader's theatre called *Stormy Weather*. Ask your child about their part.

History

- Fall - Autumn equinox
- Columbus Day history and counting game

Sensorial

- Sound matching
- Shapes and Colors Go Fish game
- Power of Two puzzle cube

Math

- We glued down bean seeds in the shape of our first initial, then graphed how many seeds it required.
- Balance work - measuring weight of a chosen apple with fava beans. They discovered that the big apple made for a lot more counting!
- Coin sorting games.

Science

- Botany - 'what plants need' controlled observations
- Seed/not a seed sorting
- Parts of a seed book making
- Apple life cycle
- Plant/animal sorting
- Stems - observations with colored water and carnations

Peace

Our peace circles have been stories about friendship.

Calendar updates

October 19: Picture Day

October 29: Walk to school Costume Parade -
December 7: Holiday concert - evening



Investigating the seeds of various fruits (and tasting....) They loved the pomegranate.



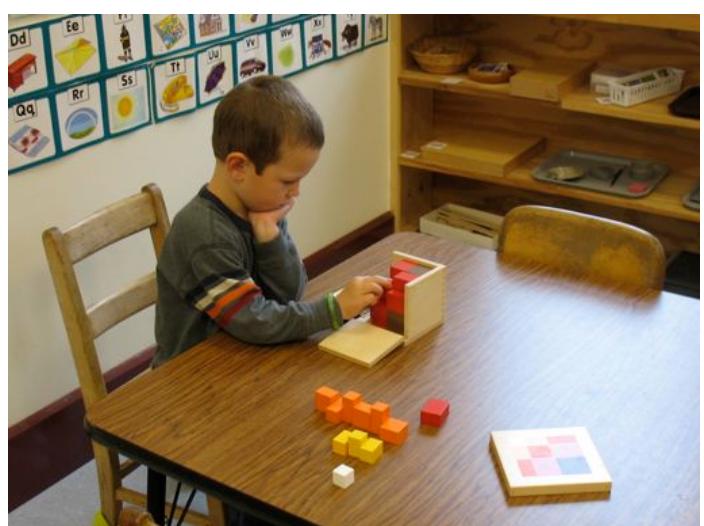
Weighing apples with fava beans



Squeezing - Tweezers and heads of sunflowers



Pin punching an apple



Cube of the Trinomial - puzzle cube



Knobless cylinder tower

Thank you for sharing your children
Miss Nancy