

Chebeague Pre-K and K News – December 3, 2010

We have changed our calendar to December (yikes!) and have posted the many special holidays (including a child's birthday). As the month progresses we will be learning about and celebrating Hanukkah, St. Nicholas Day, St. Lucia Day, the Winter Solstice, Christmas, and Kwanza.

We send our thanks to Sally Ballard who visits our class on Mondays and individually reads with the children.

Using a projector and google maps we had a field trip from space to our schoolyard and then to a few special places in North America. Our new continent is Europe.

We are continuing our discussions about immigration and freedom but now from the perspective of forced immigration with slavery and the efforts of peacemakers like Harriet Tubman who helped the immigrants in their efforts to be free.

Friday found us making translucent melted crayon window ornaments to give to our friends at the Island Commons. Thanks to Meredith Beaupre for her help.

The K-2 students finished their writing unit on small moments and our Pre-K friends were welcomed into the audience for Friday's writing share.

K-5 children have been learning about the Heifer project and are planning on working together to help others.

All continue with language and math works.

Practical Life/Art

- Sponge squeezing
- Squeezing toggle bolt mystery bags
- New spooning work - spooning transfer of pecans.

Language

- K poem this week- "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening". K's worked on arranging the lines in their stanza in preparation for sharing this poem at the Holiday Concert.

- K's have been introduced to the concept of nouns and verbs. Look for opportunities to say "oh, x is a noun" (or x is a verb).

Math

- Plus or Minus game - introduction to take away (-) using a die and manipulatives.
- Dreidel game

Science

- Our nature classroom time has moved to 11:15 on Monday's.
- Float/Sink exploration and observations

Music

- We are working on polishing our songs for the upcoming winter concert.

Cultural/Peace

- Europe is our new continent: Pictures, coins, and a few objects are on a tray for them to explore. If you need a good home for trinkets that might support our cultural studies we would welcome them.
- Harriet Tubman is our new peacemaker. We ran out of time and did not finish the drinking gourd story but will pick it up next week. If the weather clears look for the big dipper in the northern sky.



- K popcorn word this week: "To, to" from Robert Frost's poem *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening*

Note new date for holiday concert

Calendar updates

December 21: Holiday concert - 5:30pm

December 21: First day of winter ☺

Dec. 23 - Jan. 2: No school, holiday break



Our in house field trip



Sponge Squeezing



Plus or Minus Game: the goal is to be the first to cover up two rows. Die has -1, -2, 0, +1, +2, and +3



Toggle bolt squeezing - Cloth mystery bags with matching size boxes one of which hides a small soft object. They change the hiding spot.



L to R: Float/Sink, Upper Case to Lower Case matching (the rim and the clothespins each have letters), Handwriting practice magna doodle with big line, little line, big curve, little curve, exploration of items from Europe



Insta - Lock Board - Visual discrimination, matching of shapes to their color inverse

*Thank you for sharing your children
Miss Nancy*