

Chebeague Pre-K and K News – April 15, 2011

I seem to have a bit of spring fever getting out a weekly newsletter but this will catch us up since I last wrote on 3-25. Thank you to all for meeting with me for spring conferences.

Miss Sally continues to join us for reading on Monday's and Miss Merideth has joined us for some games and computer instruction. The K-5 students spent time one afternoon with Bob and Lisa making paper pots and planting seeds. The children love their time with our volunteers.

Insects have replaced dinosaurs. In the process we unrolled a very long piece of fabric representing life on our planet and made note of when insects first appeared, when dinosaurs lived and noted the short time that humans have lived. The fabric stretched from our circle area all the way into the block area. The nature table now has some insect specimens for them to explore.

This past week many work choices had an Easter theme. We blew out eggs, decorated them with permanent markers and made a basket for our special egg. (This was a multi day activity)

Practical Life/Art

- Hammering - shapes and nails on a cork board
- Squeezing - wet sponge cubes in a garlic press.
- Pouring water with opaque containers
- Squeezing - opening and closing plastic eggs looking for the big chick - others have small chicks.
- Squeezing - sorting and transfer of small and big chicks
- Setting a place setting: knife, fork spoon, napkin, cup, bowl.
- Making rainbows
- New twisting work - crush egg shells using a mortar and pestle

Language

- Seuss is still our featured author
- Sorting of cats and dogs and using descriptive language to have a friend give

you a specific animal. (this is practice using adjectives)

- Communication game - give directions to a peer to build a structure just like yours.
- K's are working on alphabetizing some of the word cards we have in the classroom of people's names and of objects.
- K handwriting: We are finishing up our weather sentences.
- PreK's are almost finished with the alphabet upper case and will begin writing their last name.
- PreK's are showing lots of interest in the moveable alphabet.

Math

- K's continue working on time, what's my rule, story problems and taking turns counting with peers.
- All continue working with making number quantities with the base 10 blocks.

Science

- Insects - exploring in the nature classroom looking for animals with six legs, an exoskeleton, and a head, thorax, abdomen.
- Insect matching, insect puzzles, and an insect version of the plus and minus game.

Music

- We have been listening to Peter and The Wolf
- The K's are all taking piano lessons so we made a snake with multiple sets of the musical alphabet (A-G)

Peace

- Rachel Carson is our new peace maker.

K spelling: *from, over, ate, beans, please, leaf*

Calendar updates

April 18-22: Spring Break, No School

April 18: Full Moon - The Frog Moon

April 19: Passover begins

May 6: Island Commons



Hammering



The final day of our dinosaur unit with dinosaurs that they colored and cut out/ plastic specimens lent to our class by Carol White (Thank you Carol!)



Planting seeds with Bob



Communication game - Yay, it looks the same!



Find the big chick squeezing work, mortar and pestle work with eggshells and in the foreground a student is working on Lexia, but only the computer screen is visible.



Blowing out egg with syringe

*Thank you for sharing your children
Miss Nancy*