

# Chebeague Pre-K News – September 28, 2012

I could not pull it together to do a newsletter last week so now I have to work hard to choose what favorite activities have consumed them the last two weeks.

The whole school went to Bennett's Cove to gather creatures for the school's salt water tank. Each group was limited to 2 crabs but we also found eels, periwinkles, whelks, hermit crabs, mussels and seaweed.

Celia, the new Island Institute Fellow joined us in picking corn, which we then proceeded to shuck and eat. We learned the *Dirt Mad our Lunch* song with Celia and led the K-5 children in singing it at lunch. Last week we dug potatoes and then made patterns with cut potatoes.

We had a flurry of interest in the math materials and we have had a few days were they have cooperatively constructed villages in the block area.

Practical Life/Art - these works help develop hand-eye coordination, fine motor skills, and concentration:

- Collage Eric Carle style - if you see collage in any books you read at home ask them how they think the illustrator made the picture. They are loving the cutting and pasting!
- Easel paint color yellow and red out to explore making orange
- Shucking corn
- New lacing pattern with various shapes and colors
- Pin punching of shapes and apples - requires concentration and perseverance

Sensorial - using the senses to discriminate:

- Visual - The geometric cabinet - discrimination of solid, thick lined, and thin lined shapes (circles, rectangles, quadrilaterals)
- Tactile - finding the matching fabric with just your hands (so far they still peak a lot)

Cultural - science, history, geography, peace:

- Land, water map poem - coloring, painting on glue and adding sand to represent the land. (very popular)
- North American continent. - Introduction to the continents song and some images of people, animals, and places on our continent. They had great questions.
- Fred Rogers is our peacemaker
- We have done some group yoga and they are choosing some of the poses to do on their own.
- Full moon - we talked about how what we see of the moon changes. We will do this monthly at each full moon. Too bad the rain obscured seeing the Harvest Moon.

Language:

- Mat Man - they all love him.
- We continue with more Eric Carle stories and story retellings
- We started our writing journals - Our first entry was about worms and our second wool
- Baa Baa Black sheep - we acted this out for the K-2 class last Friday.
- We continue with rhyming and some have started with beginning sound sorts

Math:

- Patterns - potato printing patterns with potatoes cut as circles and triangles.
- Shape talk - sides, points or lack of on circles, triangles and rectangles

Music:

- We are singing *Copy Kitten* for the start of our music circles. Each child gets a chance to lead us in a pattern of sounds, which we then all echo/copy.
- We have been singing the *Sailorman's Song*, which involves rhyming, passing a ball, and the positional words over and under.

- We listened to Hap Palmer's *Slow and Fast* and Miss Nancy let us RUN (carefully) around the classroom during the fast part.

**Calendar updates**

- Oct. 4:** Island Commons field trip
- Oct. 4:** Parent open house 5-6pm
- Oct. 5:** Early Release- teacher workshop day. School will be dismissed at 11:30 - no lunch served.



Shucking the corn which we ate for lunch - shucking corn is great fine motor practice



Land and Water map work- blue crayon for water, glue and sand for land



Yoga - the candle pose. Miss Nancy really likes it when we breathe deeply and hold this pose for a long time.... ☺



Harvesting corn with Celia



making orange



Exploring worms for our journal writing. Initially they were hesitant to touch so I gave them popsicle sticks to investigate how worms move.



Sorting, counting and matching quantity to the numeral



Cooperative block play - 1:1 association with one "people" on top of each cylinder



Constructing Mat Man



Pin punching a circle - one uses a stylus to perforate the paper along the outline



*We made patterns with circle and triangle manipulatives and then copied our patterns with cut potatoes.*



Exploring textures with our sense of touch (and a little bit of looking). In the background matching coins and counting beads  
*Thank you for sharing your children!  
Miss Nancy*