

Chebeague Pre-K News – May 24, 2013

We continue with our classroom routines. Some have been exploring time to the hour. Spring has enabled a number of works relating to care of the environment.



Napkin folding: Fine motor, concentration, also promotes awareness of symmetry



Gardening: We have been watching the onions grow that we planted last week. The rain had exposed some of the onion tops so we top-dressed them with compost. They showed great care in this process.

We then moved over to the raised beds and weeded the asparagus. This also included a taste test (mmm good) and some worm observations. Here they are showing off their "buckets" of weeds.



Cube of the trinomial puzzle: Refinement of the ability to compare, discriminate, decide, problem solve.

Coryn, a high school senior interested in education was with us a few days this week. The children loved working with her.



Sense of Touch, matching textured fabrics with eyes covered (mask)



Number bingo



Secret word: Phonemic (mostly 3 letter) objects are matched with their word. You take turns secretly writing one of the words, fold it up small and share the "secret message" with your friend to read. They love this game.

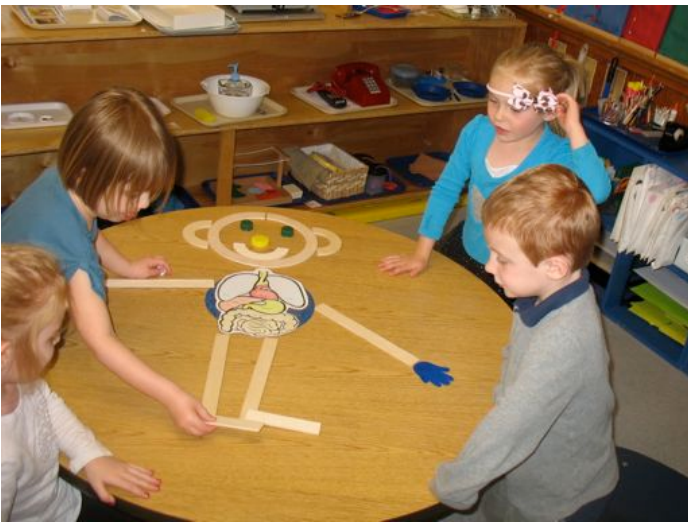


During first circle on Thursday we talked about Memorial Day and marched around the room to *March of the Wee Americans* and *Stars and Stripes Forever*. They had some interesting comments about why people should not fight.



Thursday's music circle was about string instruments and included a violin demonstration. Here they are practicing bowing. They each got to try plucking the violin. My playing Twinkle on the violin is marginal so I shared a 7 minute U-tube of Beethoven's Fifth that zooms in on different instruments. They asked for a replay.

Leo Lionni is our new author and Black Elk is our new peacemaker. As a child Black Elk had a vision about the four directions of the world and how all the creatures were interconnected. The work in the classroom includes the 4 directions, a path of difficulty, and a path of peace. It was just presented on Friday. I hope someone revisits it next week.



For handwriting they have been learning how to write the names of their classmates in title case. On Friday we revisited Mat Man and then drew our own Mat Man picture.

Friday recess provided some exploration opportunities about float and sink. They were a blast to listen to as they posed questions and then tested them out. They started out with leaves, flowers and sticks and then progressed to a plywood board to which they added stones and eventually tested out standing on it. Thank you for sending them with footwear that enables wet play. ☺ We will always go outside unless it is pouring.



Sticks - float



Plywood floats, even with rocks added



Plywood sinks when I stand on it

Calendar updates

June 6: Step up day

June 7: Field trip to Winter Hill Farm
8am boat home on 12:15

June 11: Family barbecue with field day to follow - extended day for PreK

June 14: End of year slide show 11:10-11:45

June 17: Last day of school. Dismissal at 11:30am

*Thank you for sharing your children -
Miss Nancy*