

Chebeague Pre-K News – September - October 2014

The PreK's are having a great time this year learning about themselves, each other, and the world around them.



We have harvested cucumbers a number of times. The school garden nurtures their curiosity with hands on learning.



Adding bags of dog hair and soap to our heritage apple trees to deter deer nibbling.



Fine motor work peeling garden onions for lunch

A favorite story by Eric Carle, Walter the Baker inspired us to work on making patterns with pretzels, pretzel shapes with playdough and finally to mix ingredients to make pretzels to eat. Bread with three holes through which the sun can shine. Yummy!





Easel painting not only teaches about color mixing but tidying up involves lots of organizational skills.



Adding to the monthly calendar and our growing number line for the number of days of school are daily jobs for students.



Anything with scissors has been popular this year - especially spirals!



Sorting, counting and associating numbers is fun when using manipulatives (golf tees & pom poms)

Learning about numerals and their values are being explored in a variety of ways.



The hanging bead frame readily shows the increasing value/size of the numbers 1-9.



Spontaneous group efforts matching two sets of numeral cards are encouraged. They are beginning to count by 10's.



The base ten blocks give a concrete representation of quantities. There are 100 dots (representing 100 beads) on each of the flats.



Wrapping a string around a wooden caterpillar is a fine motor work emulating the formation of a chrysalis.



Learning about letter sounds is done with sandpaper letters. They get tactile feedback as they trace the letters. They then match objects and/or picture cards to the correct letter sound.

Butterflies have been a big focus this fall. We have had two caterpillars in our classroom go through their metamorphosis and we have one caterpillar still in its chrysalis!



Miss Linda (Linda White) helped them learn about symmetry as each child made their own butterfly.



Story retelling of Eric Carle's The Hungry Little Caterpillar helps teach story sequencing and oral language skills.



Very fun was the day they donned scarves for wings and straws for a proboscis and visited flowers staged around the classroom.



We came back from Bennett's with lots of green crabs and various snails. Local fishermen have since shared more interesting creatures.



And it can't get much better than watching a monarch emerge from its chrysalis and helping to move it to where it can safely dry its wings.

Lots to see on the way out to Eagle.

We have visited our friends at the Island Commons two times and will continue to go once a month throughout the school year.



We are learning about feelings and how to be a good friend with the heart light work.

We share our favorite music and movement songs with them and encourage them to join in.

Special events have included whole school trips to Bennett's cove to collect creatures for the observation tank and to Eagle Island on the Pied Piper (Thanks to Recompense for that opportunity)



In between we still have time to learn about balance and gravity.



They were great troopers on our Halloween walk to school day.

Classroom Notes:

- *Now that mud or snow is probable for the foreseeable future please be sure your child has shoes or slippers for the classroom.*
- *If you have whole pumpkins that are still firm I welcome them in the classroom for fine motor pumpkin hammering and lacing works.*

Calendar Updates

Nov. 7: Fire Safety Day
Nov. 11: No school - Veteran's Day
Nov. 13: Island Commons visit
Nov. 20-26: PreK parent teacher conferences
Nov. 27,28: No School - Thanksgiving
Dec 8,9,11: Extended day for rehearsal
Dec 11: Winter Holiday concert 5:30pm

*Thank you for sharing your children!
Miss Nancy*