

Weekly Recap

October 15 - 19

Journeys

Monday, October 15

NO SCHOOL! - TEACHER PLANNING DAY

Tuesday, October 16

YOGA, MINDFULNESS AND MORNING MEETING

Ms. Lorelei

All

After our safekeeper rituals and wish well routine, we practiced moving our bodies like letters of the alphabet. We sang a connecting song called "I am Special" to partners and talked about what to expect that day.

LITERACY

Ms. Lorelei

We started with a read aloud called Caps for Sale. We practiced predicting and enhanced our oral vocabulary with new words. Then we reviewed our Color Poem song, singing and pointing to the words. Using sentence strips, we recreated the poem both with a guide and without. It was kind of like a puzzle! Then we explored books for fifteen minutes and picked word work centers while I pulled students in different ability groups.

MATH

Ms. Lorelei

Last week I noticed that many of us struggled with writing the numerals one through ten without a guide. So today we worked together to create a visual of each number one through ten (we ended up extending this to thirteen for now!). Students could use different color popsicle sticks to represent their numbers. Some of us were able to use number phrases like "four and three makes seven," while others shared how the placed the popsicle sticks in particular ways. One group of students worked on a Problem of the Day in their math journals before helping to represent numbers. Today's problem was a word problem that relied on addition. I was curious to see not the answer to the problem but how the students chose to represent the problem.

PBL

Ms. Lorelei

This week is research week! Last year, some Upper School students made a map of the

community. We looked at the community map made and talked about which important places needed to be added to the map (like the church or the next door yard). Then we read a story about a boy who is learning about his community and documents what he sees in his community in a journal. Moving to the front yard, we chose to document our school house in journals, noting what shapes we see in the structure of the house (our model will be 3-D after all).

CHOICE: GARDENING

Mr. Seth

Hendrik, Sebastian, Zander

Today we checked and watered the plant we transplanted last week; it had begun to flower and was in good condition. Next we reviewed plant parts and I showed them some seeds we will plant. We reviewed each herb and defined its proper planting depth and germination time. Interestingly, as we shook the seed packets we noticed some were much smaller, and even though they had a shallower planting depth they had a longer germination time. We ended class by practicing digging holes to a depth of a half-inch.

CHOICE: SPANISH

Ms. Ivette

Chase, Chance, Maddox, Dublin, Carson, Magnolia, Tyberius

Today we reviewed and practiced last week topics; we hold up colors flashcards and then the kids call out the colors. Then everyone tries to touch something of that color in the classroom. They took home some of their projects at the end of the day.

NATURE STORY & PLAY

Ms. Bridget

Today we discussed rabbits while we also read about them. We had a wonderful learning experience of sharing our prior knowledge of rabbits while obtaining new information through our reading. We worked on gathering information based on illustration through the children describing what they could observe on the page before I read the words. Students looked for context clues and engaged in the learning process of collecting data from illustration. It was neat to see how much they could understand and how accurate their perception of what the illustration was about. I noticed that the students enjoyed this process and will use this in the future. We ended the class with a nature walk and searching for bunnies.

Wednesday, October 17

YOGA, MINDFULNESS AND MORNING MEETING

Ms. Lorelei

All

After our Safekeeper ritual, yoga stretches, safety promises and wish well routines, we played a game called "Applause, please" One person steps out of the room, and the rest of the class hides something. When the student who stepped out looks for it, the rest of the class can only gives clues by clapping when the student is near the object.

LITERACY

Ms. Lorelei

Today we took our color poem and cut up individual words. In small groups, we rebuilt the poem word by word! Next we read independently for fifteen minutes before choosing word work centers. I modeled how to use different new or tricky centers correctly. I pulled and worked with different ability groups.

MATH

Ms. Lorelei

In our math journals, we represented different combinations of either 5 or 10. How many ways can you represent those numbers using two parts? With some extra time, we celebrated Hendrik's birthday with a birthday crown!

PBL

Ms. Lorelei

Continuing our research week, we researched two community locations: the bandshell and the library. Since we didn't have time to visit those places in real life today, we studied photographs of the structures and what shapes comprise them. We illustrated each of the community spots and shared what we noticed.

CHOICE: GARDENING

Mr. Seth

Hendrik, Sebastian, Zander

Today we planted our seeds for our pizza garden - this was to practice what we've learned about soil moisture and planting depth in preparation for our medical herb garden. We examined the soil, the seeds, and the changes as we misted water on our first garden together.

CHOICE: SPANISH

Ms. Ivette

Chase, Chance, Maddox, Dublin, Carson, Magnolia, Tyberius

We covered Greetings & Introductions. We formed a circle and with the teacher support, they learn new vocabulary like Hola, Buenos Dias, Buenas Tardes, Buenas Noches, Cómo estás?, Gracias, etc... Then, the kids practiced independently the greetings and introductions in English and Spanish as well.

NATURE STORY & PLAY

Ms. Bridget

We read the book "Otis" which is about life on the farm. Students asked great questions about farm life. They had a ton of excellent thoughts to share about what their own experiences have been like on a farm. We brainstormed what animals live on farms and what it would be like to be an animal on a farm. The illustrations were beautiful and we spent time talking about particular illustrations in the book. Students had a fantastic time exploring nature after the reading as well as enjoying their healthy snack.

Thursday, October 18

YOGA, MINDFULNESS AND MORNING MEETING

Ms. Lorelei

All

After our safekeepr ritual, wish well ritual, and safety promises routine, we participated in some mindfulness led by the app Smiling Mind. It was specifically geared for this age group and had students imagine a bubble floating over them to relax parts of their bodies. We also sang a connecting song to our partners called "I am Special."

LITERACY

Ms. Lorelei

We've been practicing our Color Poem all week. Today, students got their own copies to color in crayons that matched the colors in the song. Students took turns fingerpointing to the words. Then we explored books and picked literacy centers.

MATH

Ms. Lorelei

We finished representing different numbers with popsicle sticks to hang on our wall. They came out really well!

MUSIC

Mr. Brock

CHOICE: HERBALISM

Ms. Jessica H.

Herbalism

On this day we worked on planting seedlings of butter leaf lettuce, some pollinating flowers, and catnip. We've been picked up where we left off last week, and put away the dry herbs into little containers.

CHOICE: CAPOEIRA

Ms. Jessica C., Camila G. (substitute)

Chance, Dublin, Sebastian, Carson

We stretched before our practice and continued working on our "ginga" position. We worked on two important kicks: the "martelo" and "meia-lua". We kept our bodies warm by doing push-ups while waiting on our friends to finish going down the kick-practice line. We went over our favorite ground move, the "negativa". And we practiced playing

the" pandeiro" (tambourine).

NATURE STORY & PLAY

Ms. Mikael

This week we read 2 books about bees, "Beekeepers" and "A Wasp is Not a Bee". Then we used our senses for observing the 1851 and 1861 gardens for bees! We found many bees along with many other insects at 1861 collecting pollen and nectar from the brazilian pepper tree that is flowering.

Friday, October 19

YOGA, MINDFULNESS AND MORNING MEETING

Ms. Lorelei

All

We had a new student visiting our school! We made him feel welcome, and after our routines and rituals, we played "Everybody Goes" so he could hear all of our names and feel comfortable playing and learning with us today.

LITERACY

Ms. Lorelei

Today I challenged the students to find words in isolation in our Color Poem. Which word says "and"? Which word says "bear"? Some words were trickier than others! Some students rely on memorizing the song without attaching the word to the print, which is why fingerpointing is so important. It helps them match the spoken word to the print and helps identify words in a sentence. After that, we explored books and literacy centers while I worked with different students.

MATH

Ms. Lorelei

I introduced a new game called "Dump it," where you shake and spill red and yellow counters and record how many of each in boxes labeled *red* and *yellow*. Some students were able to apply addition to the parts of the whole and say sentences like "3 yellow plus 7 red equals 10," while others just explored the two parts of the whole. Then the students picked exploration math activities.

MUSIC

Mr. Brock

CHOICE: HERBALISM

Ms. Jessica H.

Herbalism

On this day we made bug away spray labels that we will make it next week. We then moved on to the next activity and made flower essence using Spanish needle flowers and passion flower flowers. We made sure to put good intentions and thoughts and feelings into our flower essence .Next week we will bottle them to take next time we are ever in a sad moment.

CHOICE: CAPOEIRA

Ms. Jessica C.

Chance, Dublin, Sebastian, Carson

We stretched before our practice and continued working on our "ginga" position. We worked on two important kicks: the "martelo" and "meia-lua". We kept our bodies warm by doing push-ups while waiting on our friends to finish going down the kick-practice line. We went over our favorite ground move, the "negativa". And we practiced playing the" pandeiro" (tambourine).

NATURE STORY & PLAY

Ms. Mikael

We reviewed the books we read yesterday to see how much we remembered and to test our knowledge that we retained. Then we freely explored the 1851 garden looking for signs of bees as well as the 1861 garden.