



Weekly Recap

October 8 - 12

Journeys

Monday, October 8

YOGA, MINDFULNESS AND MORNING MEETING

Ms. Lorelei

All

Welcome back!! It's been two weeks since I've seen my Journeys friends! We had some new faces joining us. We reviewed our safekeeper ritual, reviewed our safety expectations and played a connecting game "Everybody Goes," to learn names. We talked about how our schedule for the day has changed.

LITERACY

Ms. Lorelei

We read aloud a Big Book called *Ten, Nine, Eight*. I modeled how to hold the pages of the Big Book and how to point to the words. After that, I reviewed the procedures for selecting literacy centers. I modeled how to use some of the new choices, and how to select those choices from visual choice boards based on their ability levels. While students were working in their centers, I was able to pull and work with small groups on different literacy skills and strategies.

MATH

Ms. Lorelei

I modeled how to use different math stations including different addition games with manipulatives, counting and representing centers, and working with shapes. I modeled how to use a math journal, and at the end of math, students were given time to journal what they worked on.

PBL

Ms. Lorelei

We started our first, real Project Based Learning unit!! Students were introduced to the topic and driving question: How can we create a 3-D model of our school neighborhood community? As a starting activity, we viewed different real life maps of our school's neighborhood and went on a digital field trip using Google Maps. The students then created a map of our community using paper and art supplies as they know it now. I can't wait to see how far they grow in this topic!

CHOICE: GARDENING

Mr. Seth

Hendrik, Sebastian, Zander

In gardening class today, we talked about plant anatomy, plant health, and types of plants. We searched for seeds, like fallen acorns or beans, and planted them as an example. Also, the students were offered choices of gardens we could build. Narrowed down to either a salsa garden or a medicinal garden, the students chose a medicinal garden.

CHOICE: SPANISH

Ms. Ivette

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

During our first week, we introduced the spanish alphabet to the children, with emphasis on practicing enunciating the vowels. The kids were able to exercise the listening practice to the alphabet. They were able to write each letter as they said it out loud. At the same time, they were able to recognize the difference between the spanish & english vowel pronunciation, while we used images of objects or animals , so they can relate that to the vowels and reference them in the future.

NATURE STORY & PLAY

Ms. Bridget

We had an interactive lesson plan where students learned that trees are habitats or homes for many creatures. The students ate their healthy snack and listened to a story about how a squirrel found their home in a tree. The end of the story described how as humans we are to protect the habitat or homes of all of our friends that are animals. Students then walked around and went on a scavenger hunt, looking for specific shapes seen in nature. Before the scavenger hunt started, we discussed which shapes we could see from our chairs. This prompted the students to keep these shapes in mind as they looked for others on their stroll.

Tuesday, October 9

YOGA, MINDFULNESS AND MORNING MEETING

Ms. Lorelei

All

After starting our day with our song “I am Yoga,” we participated in our safekeeper rituals, and wished well students who were out. We played the mirror game to connect and talked about what to expect for the day.

LITERACY

Ms. Lorelei

The students were introduced to the Color Poem, that we read (rather, sang) together. We’ll read this poem this week and next to memorize and work with the sentences and words within. We practiced our skill of phonemic awareness, working with the sounds of letters and words and went to our literacy centers.

MATH

Ms. Lorelei

We practiced another part-part-whole game, laying foundations for addition and subtraction, where one partner holds a tower of unifix cubes behind his or her back, breaks it and shows the other partner one side of the break. The second partner guesses how much is still behind the first partner’s back. This can be done with any number in the tower depending on each child’s ability. We selected hands on math explorations and journaled our results at the end.

PBL

Ms. Lorelei

To prepare for talking about our community, we read a story about two boys living in two very different communities called *Same Same But Different*. We talked about what made up each of the characters’ communities. Then we charted what we know about our community. We knew a lot! We also charted what we know already about maps. We explored lots of real maps, noting different observations.

CHOICE: GARDENING

Mr. Seth

Hendrik, Sebastian, Zander

Today, the students and I talked about where our garden will go and how to plan its construction. We’ve chose our spot in the NE corner of our volunteer garden behind the

school house. There was a plant in the way, so we took the opportunity to discuss and practice 'transplanting' and how it is important in gardening.

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NATURE STORY & PLAY

Ms. Bridget

Today, I read Miss Maple's Seeds to the children as they ate their snack. The summary of this story includes that Miss Maple gathered lost seeds that haven't yet found a place to sprout. She takes them on field trips to explore places to grow. In her cozy maple tree house, she nurtures them, keeping them safe and warm until it's time for them to find roots of their own, and grow into the amazing plants they're destined to become. After this reading, the students look for seeds. We also discussed how seeds become plants. It was a really educational beautiful experience to see the life cycle of a plant.

Wednesday, October 10

YOGA, MINDFULNESS AND MORNING MEETING

Ms. Lorelei

All

After exploring some yoga positions using yoga cards and participating in our routines, we played a game called Untangle for our connecting activity. We could *not* get untangled! We talked about why—it was difficult getting unstuck without talking to each other! The things we do impact others around us. We are connected!

LITERACY

Ms. Lorelei

We've been working on the text *Buzz, Bee, Buzz*. Today, the students each got their own copies of the text to practice reading and finger pointing. Finger pointing is an important skill in learning to read, kind of like using training wheels on a bicycle. Children won't finger point to words forever, just like you wouldn't use training wheels forever. For now, it's an important step in identifying words within a sentence. We partner read and found letters and words inside the text before centers. Students explored different books for 15 minutes and then explored one word building center based on their abilities in this area.

MATH

Ms. Lorelei

Today I showed students how to represent different amounts using red and yellow counters, and how to show different amounts when adding. Then students picked math centers and journaled at the end.

PBL

Ms. Lorelei

Since we have already identified what we know about maps and our community, we had to explore what we didn't know. What do we need to know to accomplish our task? I asked students to try and work together to create a map of our community using wooden building blocks. At the end, we reflected on how we did. We noticed that we had two churches, not enough houses, buildings that didn't exist in our community, no roads and everything was in the wrong spot. Why weren't we able to create a more accurate model? We charted the answers. We needed to know the names of the roads, all (or at least most) of the important places in the neighborhood, and where they all were located.

We also need a plan before we start building!

CHOICE: GARDENING

Mr. Seth

Hendrik, Sebastian, Zander

Yesterday, we transplanted a healthy plant and to begin our class, we talked about watering; we made particular note of two factors: watering needs to be done on a regular basis and too much can be a bad thing. After we compared wet and dry soil, we looked at how dry sand can stay dry even when a lot of water is poured over it. To finish class this week, we started cleaning out our area for our medicinal garden by organizing the mulch and leveling the ground.

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NATURE STORY & PLAY

Ms. Bridget

We read the book *Blueberry Girl* today. It was an incredible story that described the love of a mother. Neil Gaiman wrote it for his goddaughter Tash, the daughter of his friend Tori Amos. We brainstormed all of the things that we could make from blueberries. Then we talked about other berries. The students finished up their snack, and we ended the class by going for a walk by the garden.

Thursday, October 11

YOGA, MINDFULNESS AND MORNING MEETING

Ms. Lorelei

All

We spent my half of the day with only four students!! Where did everyone go?! Our little crew did “I am Yoga,” wished everyone well, and came up with hand signals to review our safety rules.

LITERACY

Ms. Lorelei

We practiced one last time reading our text *Buzz, Bee Buzz*. Then we practiced phonemic awareness, read books, and practiced word or letter building skills in centers.

MATH

Ms. Lorelei

Mr. Brock came early so we had some extended music time here. :)

MUSIC

Mr. Brock

We had a great time learning about the bongos and congas and how to get two different sounds out of them. We took turns playing call and response, where one student played a rhythm, and the other students answered it back in rhythm.

CHOICE: HERBALISM

Ms. Jessica H.

Herbalism

Chase, Maddox, Zander, Magnolia, Tyberius

We learned how to dry herbs. We tied citronella plant, oregano, basil in bunches and hung them in paper bags.

CHOICE: CAPOEIRA

Ms. Jessica C.

Chance, Dublin, Sebastian, Carson

Working with smaller groups this session in School always is to get more technical with the students and more one on one time with each student as well. We worked a lot on combining different kicks and escapes together. A little more advanced than we’ve been doing. Kids are doing great!

NATURE STORY & PLAY

Ms. Mikael

We read books on millipedes and then went out into the highland house yard to study them with magnifying glasses.

Friday, October 12

YOGA, MINDFULNESS AND MORNING MEETING

Ms. Lorelei

All

We practiced being mindful, aware and in control of our bodies. We held our bodies still and calm for thirty seconds before talking about what we heard, felt or observed in the present moment. We completed all of our morning rituals and routines.

LITERACY

Ms. Lorelei

We practiced singing our color poem. While students explored books, I pulled each child to solo-read *Buzz, Bee, Buzz*. We did a great job! Then we picked centers. The students are getting so focused on building their literacy skills!

MATH

Ms. Lorelei

We played a game called Number Squeeze. First, we made a timeline up to 15. Next, we took turns picking a number secretly from the line for the other students to guess. If a student guessed incorrectly, the person who picked would either say that their number was more than or less than the number guessed. The number line would be “squeezed” down until the right number was figured out!

MUSIC

Mr. Brock

Students were introduced to the Xylophone, and got to take turns playing “Mary Had a Little Lamb” on it.

CHOICE: HERBALISM

Ms. Jessica H.

Herbalism

Chase, Maddox, Zander, Tyberius, and Magnolia

We went over medicinal properties of plants by smelling our apothecary jars and playing a card game.

CHOICE: CAPOEIRA

Ms. Jessica C.

Chance, Dublin, Sebastian, Carson

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NATURE STORY & PLAY

Ms. Mikael

We tested our knowledge we learned on millipedes the previous day. We studied them with magnifying glasses again and made an effort to point out different body parts.