



WEEKLY RECAP

NATURE IMMERSION

8/26-8/30



MONDAY

Free exploration: We started the week one of our favorite sensory experiences: cornstarch and adding water later on. Students continued making pancakes, slime, cupcakes, and used it to soften their skin. This is multisensory experience helps children expand on previous experiences of seeing pancakes being made, a cupcake sheet, or lotion to soften skin and they have the ability to act it out; creating more personal experiences through play!

Morning meeting: Ms. Sydney read The Tiny Seed. We explored where seeds would land to grow or die. Seeds that land on tall mountains, deserts, or in the water will not grow. Seeds can fly, when they land on the ground and are taken care of by earth, they grow.

Goodbye circle: We read a story about leaves changing colors in the fall. We talked about the pine needles that have fallen in our play space and how some are green, some are brown. Students guessed which leaves were alive and which ones were dead.

Lunch: Students talked about what they would do and how they would act at a restaurant. We had a friend climbing the table and another student immediately said they would get kicked out of the restaurant haha! We talked about using talking voices and meaningful conversations instead of loud noises.

Afternoon activities: Today was a very special day for some of our students had an opportunity to explore the inside environment and work on their individual work.

TUESDAY

Free exploration: We found an ant hill and making a fence with sticks and rocks to keep it safe. Ant hills are typically pretty small and unfortunately we had a kiddo unknowingly step on it. Most of our students had empathy for the ants and we tried to see how we could help. I'm sure after a few discussions, we will come up with a solution. Right now our solutions were to dig the hole back or give it space, we gave it space but I'm sure future discussions will lead to preventive measures! Students were watering children like they are flowers to grow. Some of our friends initiated watering the ground to plant trees. Playing in the fort as a castle: children were knights, princesses, dragons, and on the lookout for their monster mommies.

Morning meeting: We read a story about Earth: who lives on Earth? People, animals, plants, cars, rockets, and landscapes. What is made up of Earth? Land, sea, and sky. How can we keep the earth safe? By throwing our trash away, keeping plants safe, and keeping ourselves safe.

Goodbye circle: Story: If trees could talk. What would trees say? Keep me safe, walk by, appreciate me, do not tear me down. If rivers could talk, what would they say? Throw the trash in the garbage. Trash does not belong on the ground, it would hurt the river, oceans, and not food for animals.

Lunch: Students talked about predators and prey. Our conversation started because we saw honeybees and wondered who would eat bees.

Afternoon activities: Students had the opportunity to build a nest and understand the process of building a nest and how the birds work so hard to build their nest.

WEDNESDAY

Free exploration: Students made mud puddles today with water and our sandy ground. They poured the water on the ground and noticed, like a stream, flowed down hills and throughout our mud kitchen. Students worked together to make puddles and let each other know who wanted and didn't want to be wet.

Morning Meeting: Why do we take so many breaths? We do it to tell our bodies we are safe. When we are feeling overwhelmed, strong emotions, or unsafe taking breaths will remind our bodies that we are safe. We continued reading the book about Earth, Here we Are and talked about how we could help each other help Earth. Students talked about how the people in the story were all different but we shared a common goal, we are all people and have the ability to be kind and ask each other for help.

Goodbye circle: Students played I spy and talked about acts of helpfulness they noticed throughout the day. Students noticed helpfulness within themselves and others.

Lunch: Students helped each other with opening snacks and playing I Spy. They noticed different colors around our playspace and took turns with who spied.

Afternoon activities: Students had the opportunity to explore the environment and talk about their plant pet.

THURSDAY

Free exploration: Today students boarded a plane on the fort and took off to different planets! When students landed on Earth, they noticed the environment (land, sky, trees, air) and they saw there were humans and aliens. Students talked about different climates on different planets and went to the Marshmallow planet for the snow.

Morning meeting: We read a story about all of the animals that lay eggs. We explored birds, fish, snakes, lizards, and a few mammals that lay eggs. The intention of the book was to introduce different animals and become aware of the diversity of animals. Next we did a movement exercise where I showed a picture of an animal and the students had the opportunity to express how they felt about the animal. We had signs up that was a smiley face, frowning face, and an unsure face. Students walked to which face they felt in regards to the animal. Most kids liked

the butterfly and frog, were unsure of the skunk, and didn't like the snake. The goal of this exercise was to teach students about different animals and learn facts about them to make them comfortable rather than scared (like we can be).

Goodbye circle: I noticed we have friends who are building roads during free exploration. Based on student interest, we read a story about a construction site and the work trucks that are involved in building roads, buildings, and landscapes. Students thought the different trucks and their functions were funny.

Lunch and Mindfulness: Students talked about the hurricane and what conditions we would face. We talked about the rain, wind, and how animals will migrate away from the storm. For yoga, we did free yoga where students did their own yoga poses.

Afternoon activities: students helped the educator prepare for hurricane . Ms. Solange talked with them about hurricanes and what causes it. Students were interested in understanding weather pressure, formation of hurricanes and what makes a hurricane stronger or weak.

FRIDAY

No school!