

News from the Nest

D.C.H. Kindergarten update

September 1, 2017



Dear Families,

The school year is off to a great start! The children are really getting to know a lot about each other and our classroom. I hope that you are finding the daily updates helpful in getting your child to tell you more about their day. I know that sometimes it is hard after a long day for children to remember some of the things they did at school without a bit of prompting.

As a part of our "We Bee-long Together" bulletin board, children created their very own piece of a honeycomb art piece as well as a bee. On each child's piece of honeycomb we asked them to draw a few things that are special to them, or some of their favorite things that they like to do in order for us all to learn a little bit more about each other.

Jayma

Math: On Thursday children were asked to estimate something new inside of our estimation jar. We wanted to keep it simple by using objects that were the same shape and size but varying colors, making it easier to distinguish from one another easily. Everyone did a great job trying their best to estimate the amount of linking animals that were in the jar.

Special reminder: there will be no school on Monday September 4th in observance of Labor Day. Have a great long weekend!

Science: This week we began another weekly activity that we like to call "SCI-FRI" aka Science Friday. Each week we will conduct a science experience that may or may not coincide with our current unit. These experiences are designed to get children to predict, observe, and draw conclusions about the materials provided for them. These are skills that will continue to develop as the year goes on and in their future schooling. We started this year with a simple science experiment, testing various materials inside of a bottle to see which would stick to a magnet from the outside.

L This week children had several opportunities to
I complete a few initial letter matching puzzles as
T well as rhyming puzzles. They have also been
E able to practice their letter recognition skills in
R our texture table while sifting through sand to
A find magnetic letters. Many children were
C excited to find the letters in their name! We
Y read a few more stories this week about going to
school and being responsible. We also discussed
ways to be safe at school, and how we take care
of our classroom, before learning our four
"O.W.L.S." class rules. Ask your child to tell you
more about these rules at home.

Journal Writing

The children have already been writing in our journals each day. On most days, children are given a prompt, such as "a way to be safe at school", or "something they like to play with", to begin their drawing before labeling their work with a teacher. As the year progresses and we begin learning some phonics skills, we will help children develop their ability to label initial letter sounds and work towards writing a sentence independently. In a few weeks, we will also begin using a handwriting program called Handwriting Without Tears, to aid in strengthening the children's fine motor abilities and precision. We will alternate between writing journals and handwriting journals every week.



CORNER