

Kindergarten News

March 13th, 2009

Dear parents,

The Kindergartners are busy with their Antarctica research! They have been exploring various topics of study and are in the process of answering all their "*I wonder...*" questions using comprehension strategies and picture research. They will become the experts on their topics of interest and teach the rest of the class and the greater school community about their inquiries. They are so excited to share their background knowledge and their new schema on Penguins, Killer Whales, Leopard Seals, Weddell Seals, Krill, Skua, Ice Fish, and life in Antarctica. We will continue our Social Studies unit on Antarctica through the beginning of April.

Our Thematic Unit activities will include:

Literacy:

- Antarctica research; inquiry posters/mural and presentations
- Penguin Sequencing: egg to chick (labeling/vocabulary)
- Individual Antarctica books (patterned text)
- *I'm A Little Penguin* poem (sight words and word families)

Math:

- Penguin Math: (addition/subtraction and story problems)
- Domino Math (addition/subtraction/number combinations)
Black and White like penguins and killer whales!
- Penguin Number Combinations
- Measuring/Comparing Antarctic Animals (non-standard units)

Science:

- Ice/Crystal observations
- Ice and water exploration
- Blubber experiment (adaptation)
- Antarctic Animal Food Web

Geography:

- Map and Globe skills/symbols
- Continents
- Creating individual Antarctica Maps (focusing on symbols, directions, inhabitants, and characteristics)

Art:

- Penguin Puppets
- Magazine collage penguins
- Epson Salt creations

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- Parent/Teacher Conferences: Thank you for taking the time to come in for your parent/teacher conference. It was great meeting with all of you and discussing your wonderful children. If you ever have any future questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.
 - Please make sure your children come to school dressed for our crazy Colorado weather.
 - Spring Break is approaching:
There will be no school March 23rd-March 27th. School will resume on Monday, March 30th.
 - Don't forget to check out our TODOS classes on Wednesdays!
 - Have your kiddos wear GREEN on Tuesday, March 17th for St. Patrick's Day!!! The Leprechauns will be visiting us and bringing fun Lucky Charms math activities: sorting, graphing, adding, making patterns and eating!
 - We are getting low on snack and Kleenex. Please contribute when you can.

Thank you for sharing your amazing children with us!

Kristen, Lori and Joni ☺