

Kindergarten Connection

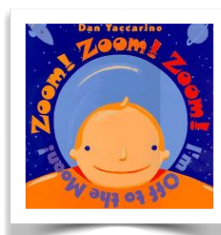
Spiritual Growth, Academic Excellence, Moral Integrity

English Language Arts

We continued to read several factual space books learning lots of interesting facts. I think everyone's favorite fact remains the one about the giant spot on Jupiter. We enjoyed reading Zoom Zoom To The Moon this week. After reading the story, we searched for words that had the double o sound like in the word moon. The children were great detectives and found every word! As a large group we read the book, The Jigaree by, Joy Cowley again. The children love this story about a space creature and a child. Our final poem in the space unit, "Satellite". The children went on a word hunt looking for double ee words in the

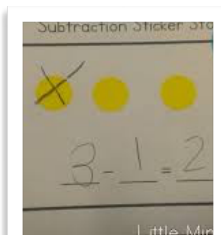


poem. We had the opportunity to watch a Magic School Bus video about the planets on Discovery Education. What a great way to wrap up the unit. The children really enjoyed it so I suggested a visit to the county library for more books and videos from the Magic School Bus. Next week we will begin an author study about Joy Cowley. The children will enjoy meeting more of her characters through her very silly stories.



Math

Subtraction is a hot topic in our classroom! This week we reviewed some math vocabulary words to name various parts of a subtraction sentence. Minus and take away are terms we use to show subtraction. The equal sign tells us how many are left. All are becoming experts switching between subtraction and addition. We are just getting ready to begin a new center sheet with the following activities; 1. Subtraction Smash; 2 players play together and each pair gets a can of play doh and a game board. One person spins the 1st spinner and then the other player makes the corresponding number using play doh balls. Then the 1st person spins the 2nd spinner and the 2nd player smashes the corresponding play doh balls with their hand. The 1st player then tells what the number sentence is. After one complete round the students switch rolls and begin again. Following the acting out of the subtraction number sentences each child follows up the activity with a worksheet illustrating a number sentence of their choice 2. Subtraction Cards- Children will use the subtraction cards and colored discs then each take a turn to be the "teacher". The teacher calls out how many discs everyone puts out. Once the "teacher" checks to make sure everyone has put out the correct amount she then says take away a specific number on the flap of the card and then tells everyone to say the answer at once. Each child takes a turn to be the teacher. 3. Subtraction Story problems in Math journals- Students will use pictures to solve subtraction story problems and then write it symbolically underneath the picture. Students will respond to the starter sentence; When I subtract.... 4. Snowman Addition Game- students will play with a partner and dice. Each person takes a turn to roll 2 dice and add them together using a number line as needed. On a person's turn they color in the mitten that matches the answer to their addition number sentence. The first person to color all their mittens is the winner. 5. Who Stole the Cookies? Students will use cookie stencils to make cookies to create a subtraction number sentence. 6. Subtraction Race- Students will play in pairs using unifix cubes and a die. Each player makes a stack of cubes equal to each other. The first person rolls the die and breaks off that amount. Then the next person rolls and does the same. Play continues until one person is out of cubes. When players get down to the end of their stack of cubes each player must roll the exact amount to finish the game.



Religion

Our focus last Wednesday and early this week has been on the beginning of Lent. As you know, we attended a prayer service at morning gathering on Ash Wednesday. All of the children were so excited to get ashes! We drew special pictures of ourselves with ashes and wrote about good things we plan to do during the Lenten season. We also have a lenten tree in our room that has many different kind acts the children can do during lent to grow closer to God. Your child can pick one and work on it at home for a few days. Once they complete the extra special acts of kindness and good deeds, they bring the card back to school. I will have them add their name to the back of the picture on the tag and then they can choose another. Please make sure you take good care of the tags. We are working on Theology of the Body as well. We revisited the story of creation.

ELA Centers From This Week

Below are the centers your child completed this week.

GAMES

Planet concentration

UNDERCOVER

Pgs. 2, 3, and 4 for "Out in Space" book

MEET WITH MRS. ZIEMBA

If I flew in a rocket....
Writing, Red words all and are, vowel tents

DISCOVERY

Original alien creations and writing

HANDWRITING

Correct strokes and formation of the letters Dd

SCIENCE LAB

Space shuttle sequencing and science journal entry

ABC CENTER

p, b, d sort

ART FUN

The Planet song booklet

EXTRA FUN

Weekly Reader, Easels, Independent/Buddy Reading, Read Around the Room, iPads.

Bits and Pieces

Don't forget about attending the Gala on March 16th.

1st Thursday

Thursday, March 7th is a dress uniform day for Mass and it is a 12:15 dismissal day

We will celebrate Dr. Seuss and Read Across America next Friday.

The children may wear Dr. Seuss themed clothing or black and red. We will be celebrating with some fun activities in our own classroom. If anyone wants to make a special Dr. Seuss treat for snack time the children will enjoy eating it. Let me know if you are interested and what you are going to make.

Leap Day Fun! Next Thursday is

February 29th leap day and the **kindergarten is going to have the dress down day** for collecting the most Halloween candy!

Gala Shirt dress down day is Monday, February 26

Penny Wars Are Here

For Lent, it is our tradition to run penny wars, a friendly competition that helps to motivate students to not only give up something for Lent, but to participate in almsgiving. Our penny wars support our church Lenten initiative benefitting the less fortunate. The class with the most points wins a dress down day. So get ready to dig out all those coins laying around your house so you can help kindergarten win Penny Wars! Below is the important information needed to help our class gain points as well as how we can take away points from other classes! Unfortunately, we already have some digging out to do since other grades have already put many silver coins in our jar!

POSITIVE POINTS These coins and bills are the ones we want for our kindergarten jar

EACH PENNY = +1 POINT

\$1 BILL = +100 POINTS

\$5 BILL = +500 POINTS

\$10 BILL = +1.000 POINTS

NEGATIVE POINTS These coins go into other classes' jars

* NICKEL = -5 POINTS

DIME = -10 POINTS

QUARTER = -25 POINTS