

05.10.2024

Dear Parents,

This week we learned about the Rainforest and introduced the letter Ww. We learned that there are several different types of rainforests.

Rainforests cover less than 3 % of the planet. The world's largest rainforest is the Amazon rainforest. Rainforests house more species of plants and animals than any other terrestrial ecosystem. Much of the life in the rainforest is found in the trees. The equator is an imaginary line that goes all around the middle of the world, halfway between the North and South Poles. North and South of the equator are where most rainforests grow. We learned that plants in these forests grow tall, thick, and green, this is because the weather there is warm and wet. We also talked about the different layers in a rainforest, like the layers of a cake! Forest floor, Understory, Canopy, and Emergent layer. The emergent layer is the top layer, where many exotic birds are found. The canopy is the next layer where monkeys, apes, and exotic plants live. The canopy is like living under a big green umbrella. It is so dense that it takes about 10 minutes for the rainwater to penetrate that layer. The understory is the next layer. It is the home of bats, frogs, butterflies, and many other animals. The last layer is the Forest floor. It's dark on the rainforest floor because the trees keep most of the light out. We also learned new vocabulary words such as anaconda, chameleon, humid, swamp, and algae.

Academic Enrichment and Small Group: This week, the children learned about the letter W and the sound of the letter. They practiced writing the letter W and wrote words. They drew a picture of the rainforest and learned about the four layers. They watched a short video about the rainforest and listened to the sounds of the different animals in the rainforest. They made beautiful colored parrots hanging in our classroom next to the monkeys, snakes, sloths, and butterflies.

Graphing Topic of the week: We graphed their favorite animals and then we counted them. We also used pictures and plastic animal figures to help them identify the animals living in each forest layer.

Journals - for this week's journal activity, the students drew a picture of the rainforest, which included many tall trees as well as many birds and animals.

Books we read this week:

Rumble in the Jungle

Naughty Little Monkeys

Rainforest Homes

Jungle Animals

Rainforest Ride

My Q Book

Reminders:

Our family day event will take place on the following days and times. Please mark your calendars for up to two people to attend. We look forward to seeing you.

May 22nd : Purple Door Family Day @ 8:30 to 9 am.

May 23rd: Brown Door Family Day @ 8 to 8:25 am

May 23: Purple Door Teacher appreciation lunch

May 30: Brown Door Teacher appreciation lunch

May 27th: School closed for Labor Day

June 6th: VPK Graduation, NO SCHOOL THAT DAY FOR VPK

June 7th: School closed for summer camp preparation

Parenting Tips:

Set Smart Limits

Take charge. Children crave limits, which help them understand and manage an often confusing world. Show your love by setting boundaries so your kids can explore and discover their passions safely. Remember that discipline is not punishment. Enforcing limits is really about teaching kids how to behave in the world and helping them to become competent, caring, and in control.

Quote of the week: In nature, nothing is perfect and everything is perfect. Trees can be bent in weird ways, and they're still beautiful. –Alice Walker

Have an awesome weekend.

Ms. Nadia and Ms. Ana

Ms. Laura and Ms. Carmen