

05/28/2021

Dear Parents:

For this week, our students learned about insects and the letter X. Here are some of the things we discussed:

- There are about 1 million known species of insects.
- Scientists are constantly discovering new species of bugs.
- Butterflies, beetles, ants, flies, grasshoppers, silverfish, and bees are examples of insects.
- Insects live all over the world.
- Insects can be found in cold regions, hot rain forests, deserts, mountains, caves, and in freshwater.
- Insects are members of a larger group called arthropods.

We also learned about the body structure of insects. The three major segments of an insect body are the head, the thorax, and the abdomen. They also lack a skeleton inside the body. Insects have a covering on the outside of the body called an exoskeleton that protects their body. Insects also have six legs and at least one pair of antennae, or feelers. Additionally, insects have a variety of ways to protect themselves from their enemies. For example, some insects hide by blending into their surroundings (camouflage). Some insects bite or sting their enemies while others produce poisons.

The students traced the letter X and wrote two words that start with that letter such as X-ray and Xylophone. They also drew a picture with the corresponding word. They listened to the sound of the letter X through a song. In their journals, they wrote a sentence: "The boy played the xylophone."

Activities we did this week:

This week the children made beautiful versions of ladybugs, bumble bees, caterpillars, ants, and butterflies.

Activities to do at home:

Take a Bug Nature Walk: Go on a nature walk to search for bugs and draw observational pictures of bugs you find.

Story Time:

The Grouchy Ladybug

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

Have You Seen Bugs

Counting Insects

Bugs

Butterflies

Their favorite book was "The Grouchy Ladybug" by Eric Carle. The Grouchy Ladybug is about a bad-tempered bug who will not say "please" or "thank you," will not share, and thinks she is bigger and better than anyone else. This book goes over concepts of time, size, and shape, as well as the benefits of friendship and good manners.

Vocabulary words: Camouflage, metamorphosis, antenna, thorax, abdomen, chrysalis, cocoon, pupa, larvae, flea, and colony.

Quote:

“Until you spread your wings, you'll have no idea how far you can fly.”- Napoleon

Congratulations VPK class of 2021! You are well prepared and ready for kindergarten. Thank you for letting us be a part of your journey. And most importantly, thank you parents for the all the hard work that you do.

The VPK Graduation was video taped this week. Mrs. Davis is having a montage video made for all families and hopes to have it ready on Monday. As soon as it is ready, it will be put on our school website and you will get a link to send to family and friends. On Monday, we will be sending home bags with your child's work samples, their VPK Diploma, class pictures and other little goodies. Kids who will be in VPK next year will get the bag minus the VPK Graduation items.

-Wishing everyone a happy and safe Memorial Day weekend! We honor the veterans as well as active service members. Thank you for all that you do!

-Ms. Ariel

-Mrs. Ana

-Mrs. Marta