Dear Blue Door Parents,

Hello, this week we did a lot of reviewing of the Colors and Shapes. During Circle Time the teacher talked about the different colors and shapes that we have here in the classroom. As the children were sitting they were asked what color their school shirt was and they responded correctly that their shirt was blue. The majority of the children love the color red. The teacher said a color and had each child go around the classroom and find that color. They did a great job!

For art, the children were given a shape that was drawn on construction paper and the children glued mosaic squares along the lines to make that shape.' Having free art day is also lots of fun for the kids. They were able to choose between markers and crayons to draw whatever they liked. Playing with the colored bean bags is lots of fun . The teacher asked each child to pick out the colored bean bag that she said and had the child throw it into the bin. Great fun and lots of learning. Making shapes from Play-Doh was fun lots of fun. The children used different Play-Doh cutters as well.

On the playground, we practiced our gross motor skills by jumping in place, running around the playground, throwing the ball, having a basketball game which is their favorite, and hopping in place were some of the gross motor activities that we did this week.

As young children transition to the next early childhood classroom, there can be some anxiety for both the child and the parents. Separation anxiety is a normal reaction. Leaving the familiar faces of teachers and entering into a new environment can be difficult for anyone.

Sometimes the pain of separation seems to hurt us more than our children. Most children quickly adapt to a new classroom, especially if it is in the same school with familiar friends.

Here are some tips to help with transitions and separations:

Know Your Child, and Realize that Each Child's Response Is Different. We all want our children to take to their caregivers with eager enthusiasm, but children's responses to transition and separation depend upon their age, temperament, and experience.

Be Positive. Our children have incredible intuitive skills. They sense our anxiety and hesitation. As the first day for transition draws near, begin talking to your child about what to expect and about any concerns or fears they might have. Present school as a place where he'll learn new things and make friends.

Establish a Drop-Off Ritual. Developing a quick, simple way to say "good-bye" and reassuring our children that we will return will help separation go more smoothly. Sneaking out creates a sense of mistrust.

Tune-In to Your Child's Behavior. During times of change, our children may have behavior regressions, delayed reactions or even outbursts at pick-up time. It's all normal. We can reassure them with positive comments, physical affection, and love.

Contact the Program to See How the Day Is Going. If our children are upset when we leave them, we can feel uneasy or guilty. Just knowing they are okay can help us settle down and have a good day.

Adapting to transition and overcoming separation anxiety may take time for some of us, both young and old. Transition times are learning times for our children and us. Remember that becoming comfortable in a new classroom is an ongoing process, not just a single event. Our children learn through consistent experience that each goodbye, as hard as it may be, is followed by our happy return.

Parents, please don't forget we are closed on Monday for Memorial Day. Enjoy time with your family. Please don't forget to wash your child's blanket and return to school nice and clean. Please make sure your child's nails are cut short so that way they do not scratch themselves or their friends,

Have a great long weekend!

Mrs. Cindy

Mrs. Luz