

01.26.2024

Dear Parents,

The topic this week was Arctic Animals and the letter li. The Arctic is a polar region located in the northernmost part of Earth. The Arctic region consists of the Arctic Ocean, adjacent seas, and parts of Canada, Danish Realm, northern Finland, Iceland, northern Norway, Russia, northernmost Sweden, and the United States. We discussed all the interesting animals that live in the Arctic (polar bears, arctic foxes, beluga whales, walruses, seals, snowy owls, etc). In all, the Arctic is home to more than 21,000 known species of highly cold-adapted mammals, birds, fish, invertebrates, plants, and species. Blubber (fat, like lard) and fur keep Arctic animals warm. Down feathers trap a layer of air next to the body to help keep birds warm.

Some facts we learned about the Arctic and Arctic animals are:

- * Covering millions of miles of frozen landscape, the Arctic region is the northernmost part of the earth.
- * Sub-zero temperatures are often the norm in the region.
- * Despite its harsh conditions, the Arctic is home to some amazingly resilient bears, cats, wolves, weasels, and other land mammals. They hunt and forage, raise families, and live out their lives in this snowy, inhospitable land.
- * Many arctic herbivores have adapted to be able to eat lichen, a moss that grows on plants in the tundra. Carnivores, however, have a much wider diet, ranging from rodents such as lemmings, birds, and even caribou. When food sources are more scarce, carnivorous animals will also eat berries and eggs.
- * Polar bears can smell a seal three feet below the snow
- * Unlike most owls, snowy owls hunt mostly in the daytime.
- * Wolf pack can travel more than 100 miles in one day.

.This week our students also traced and colored the letter "li". We practiced writing uppercase and lowercase. They wrote words and a sentence using "i" words. They have also been learning about "polar" opposites, and have been recognizing the difference between vowels and consonants. For Art, we made a walrus using paper plates and brown paint/markers. We also made a polar bear with shaving cream and white paint. The students also worked in their journals.

Science Lab: This week the students got treated to the Science Lab with Mrs. Davis twice! On Monday we learned about sound and vibrations using tuning forks. On Wednesday we learned about light and reflection and we used mirrors and flashlights to learn about how light reflects. Hope you took a peek at the pictures on Brightwheel!

Books we read this week:

Walk In the Arctic, The Letter I Book, Sleek Seals, Snowy Day, Wonderful Wolves

We also did our weekly visit to the garden to water the plants and saw that some of the tomatoes were ready to be picked. So we picked the tomatoes, washed and cleaned them, and

then in class counted them during Circle Time and sorted them by size. Then for lunch, Ms. Maria cut them up and we got to try them. They were delicious!

Student of the week:

Purple Door: Dominic Rodriguez

Brown Door: Edward Martinez

Please bring a decorated poster on Monday (1/29/24) with family pictures, favorite places to go, food that they like, pets, or add anything that you think will make your child happy to share with classmates and teachers. Have them participate while you are putting it together with them.

Activities to do at home with your child: Ask your child to estimate how many shoes are in the house. Let them guess. Then go to the rooms together and have them count each individual shoe.

Quote of the week:

"Kindness is like the snow; it beautifies everything it covers." Khalil Gibran

Hope you all enjoy your weekend!

Ms. Ana and Ms. Nadia

Ms. Laura and Ms. Andrea