

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2020

Mrs. Wolek & Miss Teagan M/W/F and T/TH Classes

February is here! This month, we will be focusing on friendship, caring and sharing. As the children play and interact with each other, they continue to develop both socially and emotionally. We have several cooperative activities planned that will allow the students to practice working together and taking turns with their buddies.

The month was filled with many winter themed art projects, sensory experiences and science activities. The students snipped yarn with scissors to decorate winter hats and used fingerpaints to make handprints on paper mittens. We also read the book, *Snowmen at Night*. Afterward, we used puffy snow paint made from shaving cream to create snowmen. We received some creative responses to the question, "What does **your** snowman do at night?" The children also explored textures by making winter collages with a variety of materials. In addition, the easel was used for creating process art that reinforced the letter of the week and the cool colors of winter.

The winter fun continued when we filled our sensory table with all types of snow, both fake and real! Thankfully, the weather cooperated, and we were able to use real snow and watercolor paints in our table. We taught the students how to use pipettes to squirt the paint onto the snow. They loved to mix the colors and noticed how our fluffy, white snow turned into slush and then completely melted to water. Our sensory table was also used for an animal rescue activity where our arctic animals were frozen in ice. The children used warm water and eye droppers to melt the ice and free the animals. They loved this!

We talked about winter clothing and reminded the children to put on their winter gear in the correct order. The clothing theme extended into our dramatic play area where we replaced our kitchen with a laundry room. The children washed, dried and ironed clothes. They even learned how to hang laundry on a clothesline.

Throughout the month, our students practiced identifying and writing the letters in their name. To help them practice these skills, we had our classes make "name caterpillars." First, they counted the letters in their name and then arranged their letters in the correct order. Finally, they traced their letters and decorated their caterpillars. They were very proud of their hard work. Continue working with letters at home, and don't be afraid to get creative! Children enjoy writing their letters in salt, cornmeal, flour, sand, snow, etc. Using foam letters in the bathtub, alphabet magnets on the fridge and eating on ABC placemats are additional ways to make learning fun!

This month, we will be learning the letters Vv, Xx, Qq, and Zz. The students will also be participating in a Valentine's Day party, Gym Day, and vision and hearing screenings.

