



Navigators May Newsletter

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We are working as a team



After finishing [I Am Jackie Robinson](#), we are starting May learning about the distinction between living and non-living things and talking about what living things need in order to live and thrive, what their life cycles are, and how living things grow and are connected to the world around them. We are beginning the month reading [The Girl Who Thought In Pictures: The Story of Temple Grandin](#) and learning life on farms. We will end May reading [Summer Birds: The Butterflies of Maria Merian](#) and studying the life cycles of butterflies, insects, and flowers.

Science: We are sorting things into living and non-living categories, looking at what food comes from a farm and from cows in particular, and we are making our own

butter, whipped cream, and ice cream in class. We are also learning about metamorphosis and observing the life cycle of butterflies in class, studying how some bees make honey and others pollinate plants, and we growing plants, including flowers from seeds and bulbs.

Math: We are creating color, shape, and size patterns using manipulatives, stamps, and stencils, and other patterns using unifix cubes, fruit counters, and rocks, shells, and design jewels. We are also studying symmetry, particularly in butterflies and insects, and we are creating symmetry using parquetry block designs and geoboards, and in our art and the structures we build.

Reading and Writing: We are studying word families and rhyming patterns by identifying the rhymes in The Girl Who Thought In Pictures, playing rhyming word games and puzzles, and singing songs that rhyme, including “Tingalayo” and “Down on Grandpa’s Farm.” In addition to practicing letters, spelling words, and discussing the characters and plots in our stories, we are also drawing animals and insects.

Gross Motor: We have been playing tee-ball, giving students the opportunity to be at bat, in the bullpen, and in the outfield. Students are also busy playing soccer and basketball, and we continue to incorporate walks and yoga into our weekly routines.

Warm regards,

Catharine and Charlotte

Upcoming Events:

May 11: Class field trip to Taylor Brae Farm

May 25: Grandparents’ and Special Friends’ Day

May 28: The Family School and Salt Box School are closed for Memorial Day

