



**March Newsletter
Volume 2011-2012, Issue 7**



APRIL/MAY SCHEDULE:

Monday, April 2 through Tuesday April 10 – No school

Thursday, April 12 – Tuition due, \$140

Thursday, April 26 - Field trip to Renfrew Museum/Waynesboro –

drop off at Renfrew at 9 AM, pick up at Renfrew at 11:30

Parents welcome to stay

Monday, April 30 – Hearing and Vision tests by Health Dept., no permission slips needed

Thursday, May 3 – Cinco de Mayo celebration by teachers

Thursday, May 10 – Homewood/Steffey and Findlay –

drop off at Homewood at 9, pick up at Steffey and Findlay at 11:30

Thursday, May 17 – Graduation Day for all children, both 3 and 4 year old groups, parents welcome

Followed by family picnic (bring your own) at Pangborn Park until 1 PM

**Thank you for all the delicious snacks! We really
appreciate them!**



Circle Time! (Linda's circle time for three year olds)

We have had a lot of fun in circle time this month. In addition to our usual activities we also have had a marching band, played "red light, green light", and even did some experimenting with mixing colors to make new colors. One of our favorite days was the first day of spring when we got to wake Fuzzy Bear and feed him some 'berries' after a long winter of hibernation. We've played more circle games this month also, including pass the robin's egg after hearing the book, "The Best Nest". We continue to talk about the seasons and the weather as well as practice our counting and word recognition and of course, hear a story every day.



Linda's Creative Corner

We had lots of fun trying our hand at fingerpainting this month. (Their pictures will be in their end of year book.) We also did some sponge painting, printing with plastic eggs and painting with Q-tips. One of our favorite story stretcher days involved the book, "Little Blue and Little Yellow". The children were given blue and yellow playdough and mixed it together to make green playdough. Then we used the extra green playdough to make shamrocks for St. Patrick's day! Another favorite book was "Harry the Dirty Dog". The children were then give black paper and colored chalk and shown how to dip the chalk into water before drawing to make the colors shine! We've also had time for some fun creative play time! Everyone enjoyed the plastic eggs in the rice table and the free art activities which included using stencils and colored pencils.



Team Green News

The Green Room celebrated St. Patrick's Day by getting out all our green toys! We also made many nice pictures with the St. Pat's stickers! It was a great week for the Green Room. Prop Boxes we have used this month include the Castle Box and the Farm Box. It's great to see them pretending to fight dragons or pretending to plant a garden! For the beginning of spring, I read one of my favorite books to the kids. It's called "Make Way for Ducklings". They seemed to enjoy it. As for exercise, we sure have been getting outside in this warm weather and let's not forget about the exercise they got at the roller skating rink. It's been a great month and I hope everyone has a fun and restful Spring Break!





Miss Debby's Science and Social Studies

We enjoyed a lot of good old-fashioned play in the Orange Room this month. We practiced Ring-Around-the-Rosie, London Bridge, Duck-Duck Goose, and Hide the Carrot (kids give only verbal hints to seeker: You are getting "closer/hotter" or "further/colder"). We used our imaginations and a flashlight to create shadow puppets on the wall and we guessed what each shadow was. We each picked a stuffed animal and named at least 3 characteristics about it. In addition to learning about different animals we learned to take turns listening and speaking. For St. Patrick's Day we learned where Ireland is on our world map and we heard how the Irish immigrated to the United States because of the Potato Famine. Later we went to the playground and each child dug a real potato out of the sand box. This week we are discovering how primary colors of red, yellow and blue are mixed to create the secondary colors of green (blue + yellow), purple (red + blue) and orange (yellow + red). We mixed these colors and placed white carnations in various colored cups of food dye. On Thursday we will discover what happens when white carnations drink colored water.



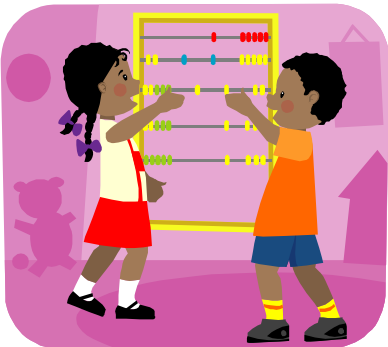


Miss Beth's Circle Time for Four Year Olds!

This month our circle times centered on predicting outcomes. We enjoyed trying to decide how the Leprechaun would trick Patrick into finding his gold. We also gave ideas concerning how Liza would get Ralph out of the farmer's cage in Bunny Trouble. With another book, The Easter Egg Farm, we used picture clues to decide how Pauline was creating colorful eggs at Mrs. Pennywort's Farm. The children are interacting so well in circle time and all think they can read – and they can! With repetitious phrases and picture clues, the children are able to read to each other – and to themselves with special red reading phones.

We continue to play circle games, listening to the directions on the CDs. The children are now adept at making a circle of friends without a teacher's help. This is quite an accomplishment. We are working on finding one's own space so when we dance and march and use bean bags that we don't bump into one another.

Our word families now include words that end in -o__. We are also still encouraging the children to listen for blend and digraphs. Our next vowel will be the short "e".



Mathematical Marvels

We continued sorting, counting and playing with manipulatives that help us learn math skills. One favorite activity was "skip-counting" by twos as we practiced getting two jelly beans at a time and placing them by one-to-one correspondence on our egg blankies. We were getting ready for our Easter Egg Hunt!

We also focused on adding and subtracting with a lot of fun fingerplays. Here are some favorites from both the three and four year old classes:

EARS SO FUNNY

Here is a bunny with his ears so funny
And here is his home in the ground.
When a noise he hears, he pricks up his ears
And he jumps in his home in the ground!

CAGGAGE HEAD

Once there was a bunny and a green, green cabbage head.
I think I'll have some breakfast, this little bunny said.
So he nibbled and he nibbled and he cocked his head to say,
"I think this little bunny will hop, hop, hop away!"

BUNNY IN THE WOOD

There was a little bunny, who lived in the woods,
He wiggled his ears like a good bunny should!
He hopped by a squirrel,
He hopped by a tree,
He hopped by a duck,
And he hopped by me!
He stared at the squirrel,
He blinked at the tree,
He winked at the duck,
And he wiggled his nose at me!

MOTHER BUNNY

"Come, my little bunnies, it's time for bed!"
That's what the mother bunny said.
"But first I'll count you just to see,
If you have all come back to me!"
"Bunny one (kiss), bunny two, bunny three, so dear,
Bunny four, bunny five, yes, you're all hear!
You're my cutest little bunnies alive,
My bunnies one, two, three, four, five!"

ROBBIE THE RABBIT

Robbie the rabbit is fat, fat, fat
His soft little paws go pat, pat, pat
His soft little ears go flop, flop, flop
And when Robbie runs, he goes hop, hop, hop!

BUNNIES IN THE BED

There were six little bunnies lying in the bed,
There were six little bunnies and the baby bunny said,
"Roll over, roll over!"
So they all rolled over and one fell out (waaaaa!)...

There were five little bunnies...

There were four little bunnies...

There were three little bunnies...

There were two little bunnies...

There was one little bunny lying in the bed,
And then he said, "GOOD-NIGHT!"

There were five angry bunnies stomping by the bed,
There were five angry bunnies and they all said,
"ROLL OVER!!!!"
So the baby rolled over and landed on his chin,
And the other little bunnies hopped right in!

PETER RABBIT

Little Peter Rabbit (two fingers hopping) (#1)
Had a fly (fly hands) (#2)
Upon his ear (point to ear) (#3)
Little Peter Rabbit had a fly upon his ear,
Little Peter Rabbit had a fly upon his ear,
And he flicked it (flick by head)
'Til it flew away! (fly hands away)

(Repeat, making motions and just humming for part #1)

(Repeat, making motions and just humming for part #1 and part#2)

(Repeat, making motions and just humming for part #1, part #2, and part #3)