

WCA Preschool Times



November 28, 2022

The last two weeks, while shorter, were full of learning and exploring! We got to enjoy the sun and warmer weather last week as well! The Thanksgiving Feast was wonderful and a highlight for all. The class was so excited for the feast that many asked all morning when we were going. It looked like everyone enjoyed the delicious food, too! If you were able to come, thank you for joining us! This week, and throughout the month of December, we will turn our focus to maybe one of the most exciting holidays all year: Christmas! Each child will start their own Santa Clause countdown calendar on December 1st. Each day we will add another cotton ball to Santa's beard. You will be able to continue this activity at home when we start break on December 16th. Not only are the holiday activities, decorations and thoughts of gifts under the tree enjoyed by many, it is also the perfect opportunity to teach children the qualities of giving, thinking of others and thankfulness. These are of the utmost importance in the development of a child. While we will be enjoying various projects and activities all month, we will also be focusing on this as well. In science this week, the class will enjoy the reaction watercolors have with salt and will explore fake snow in the sensory table. I suspect everyone will be fully engaged! Each week we listen to and watch "Miss Patty Phonics Alphabet Song" on YouTube. The class learns the letter sounds while also learning sign language. She has many fun children's songs that are educational. Here is one of several phonics videos she does: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zhbC-3Fu77E> I'll also send this link, and a few others, on Remind so it's easily accessible for you. **The Holiday Concert is on Thursday! Please, dress your child in their preschool T-shirt, khaki colored pants or skirt and shoes. Please, no jeans or boots. ☺**

Areas of Focus

Family and Community



Literacy and Language

- Books: *Snowflakes Falls*, *Llama Llama Home with Momma*, *The Red Book*, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, *Froggy's Day with Dad*, *Christmas Tree Farm*
- Wreath Hanging Letter (matching uppercase and lower-case letters)
- Blending words with pictures (ex: cup...cake)
- Rhythm "body beats" matching the teacher

Math, Science, Sensory

- * Peek Inside a Pine Tree
- * Watercolors and Salt Painting
- * Sensory Table: Fake Snow
- * Color By Number Challenge



Important News

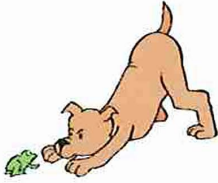
⇒ **Wednesday** is Pizza Day for those that ordered! Please, send snacks still.

⇒ **Thursday** is the Winter Concert! Performances will be at 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm.



Rhyme Time!

(Tune: Skip to my Lou)



_____, _____ these two rhyme
_____, _____ these two rhyme
_____, _____ these two rhyme
They sound the same at the end!



- Use one-syllable words only. For example; dog & frog, cat & hat, pig & big, sing & king, star & car, dream & team.
 - Avoid word pairs that start with the same sound to avoid confusion. For example; frog & fog,
 - Include word pairs that do not rhyme from time to time. For example;
Dog, chair these don't rhyme
Dog, chair these don't rhyme
Dog, chair these don't rhyme
They don't sound the same at the end!
- (Also, avoiding pairs that start with the same sound. For example; dog & dig, cat & car, win & want)
- Clap on each word in rhythm as you sing. This promotes rhythm concepts too.

A quick note! I read an article published by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) pertaining to building a strong foundation for children as early readers. Here are a few points I wanted to share with you!

Using a Village to Raise a Reader

DONNA C. CELANO, SUSAN B. NEUMAN

It takes a village to raise a child. As literacy researchers, we see the truth of this day after day. Although preschool teachers play a major role in helping children become readers, they operate as part of a larger community team that supports a child's early literacy development. What children learn in the classroom is reinforced by family members as well as by a host of local resources, such as public libraries, community programs, and health centers.

Supporting literacy outside school

Early childhood educators play an important role in putting children on the road to reading. But their efforts are only a piece of the larger environment for literacy development. Children need their families to reinforce early literacy skills during out-of-school time as well.

When it comes to children's oral language development, alphabet knowledge, and concepts of print, families play a key part. A wealth of research shows that the time families spend interacting with their children during routine activities, such as singing, drawing, and playing games, is critical to a child's vocabulary development.

While I work on making sure your child has rich literacy and mathematical activities daily at school, it's not all they need. By me sharing with you the songs, poems, books and what activities I have planned for each week is yet another way we can work together for your child. They are well on their way to becoming strong readers and successful students!