



WCA Preschool Times



May 1, 2023

Last week we wrapped up our study of plants. There is so much to learn and explore with this unit that we could have gone another month! Focusing on the life cycle of plants was hands on and we can observe it happening all around us. Every living thing has a life cycle! The farmer's market in pretend play was a hit with selling and buying fruits, vegetables and flowers from the produce stand. Our chicken eggs are in the final week of the hatching count down! I'm hoping that they hatch while we are at school and not over the weekend. Nonetheless, it's going to be wonderful for the class. To wrap up the school year we will focus on habitats around the world. Just our very own country has massive diverse habitats and ecosystems! There is so much we could learn, but we will focus on the basics of each habitat from the pond to the desert and everything in-between! *There are a lot of happenings the month of May. Please, take note of all the dates below!*

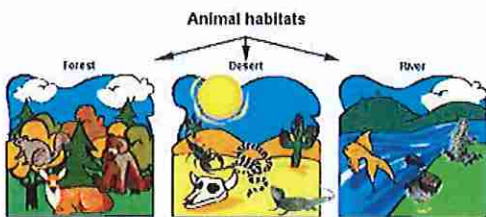
Important Dates:

Friday, May 19th - Preschool Poetry Recitation at Opening Ceremony

Friday, May 26th - Preschool Completion Recognition 2023 at Opening Ceremony

Areas of Focus

Habitats



Literacy and Language



- Books: *Peck, Slither, Slide, Beavers, Welcome to the Sea of Sand, Arctic Winter and Arctic Summer, The Big Red Barn, The Hermit Crab*
- Animal Habitat Sorting
- Circle the Sound: dry erase sheet
- Alphabet Writing in Sand Trays

Focus Words

habitat * fragile * shady * burrow * survive * adapt

Math, Science, Sensory

- * Sensory Table: Woodland Floor
- * Science Table: Pond Water Observation
 - * Make a Bird's Nest
 - * Board Games: HiHo Cherry-O, Chutes and Ladders



Important News

- ➔ Wednesday morning, we will be walking, as a school, from the Hillsdale Library to WCA with police escort! It's just a little over a mile walk. Be sure to wear comfortable tennis shoes!
- ➔ Thursday evening is the spring concert at 7:00 P.M.
- ➔ Friday is the spring carnival at 6:30 P.M.

School Office: 517-437-2000 Mrs. Draper 517-610-1475

Habitats: Family Letter 1



Dear Family Member,

Now that we have learned about animals and plants, we are going to learn about the different places where plants and animals live together—their habitats. We will learn all about woodland and pond habitats. When we learn about the woodland, pond, we we will talk about trees, squirrels, deer, and birds. When we learn about the will talk about water, fish, beavers, and frogs. You might want to visit our classroom and see the murals showing each of these habitats. The children are working hard to make their own plants and animals to add to the murals! In our Small Groups, we will be focusing on telling stories, hearing sounds in words, and writing letters.

Below are some suggestions for activities you might do at home to help your child remember what they are learning about at school:

1. Read Aloud Each Day

You might already own some books that show pictures of different habitats. *Little Red Riding Hood* and *Goldilocks* are stories that are set in the woodland. Many children's books feature pond animals such as frogs and ducks.

2. Tell Stories Aloud

Make up your own story to go with the pictures in a book or make up a new ending. Then, have your child do the same thing. You could also have your child tell you a story about somewhere you have been together.

3. Sing Nursery Rhymes

Your child may come home singing and doing the motions for "Bat, Bat," "Row, Row, Row Your Boat," and "Once I Saw a Little Bird." The words to "Bat, Bat" are on the back of this letter—have your child recite the rhyme and talk with your child about the words in the poem that rhyme.

4. Practice Saying Words that Start with /m/

Take turns with your child thinking of words that all start with the sound /m/ as in *mat*. You might start with the words: *mouse*, *magic*, *mitten*, and *mine*. You could also pick another sound and play the game again.

5. Practice Writing Letters

Your child has had practice writing the letters 'm', 'a', 't', and 'd'. Practice writing these lowercase letters and ask your child to say the sound that goes with each letter.

Bat, Bat

Bat, bat,
Come under my hat,
And I'll give you a slice of bacon.
And when I bake
I'll give you a cake,
If I am not mistaken.

