



WCA Preschool Times



January 29, 2024

Last week the class focused on hibernation, migration, and adaptation. They learned about how different animals handle the cold weather. It is amazing how far the monarch butterfly travels! We mapped the path that the Canadian goose and monarch butterfly take during migration from Hillsdale, Michigan to Mexico and the Gulf of Mexico. They learned about the animals around us that adapt to the winter weather by growing a thicker coat of fur and putting on more fat, or insulation, to keep them warm. The library area has monarch butterflies hanging above and it almost seems as though they are fluttering when the heat is blowing. We also have some geese heading south hanging in the kitchen area. The extra-large building blocks were a big hit and a great activity for our indoor time! I hope the weather cooperates better this week and we get outside! This week we will turn our attention to the Arctic and the animals that adopt and use camouflage to survive the frigid cold and hungry predators. Everyone is sure to enjoy catching arctic cod with their fishing pole at the "fishing hole"! We will construct igloos using marshmallows and while this fun activity is creative play it is also helping to build a strong foundation for math concepts through STEM. The class will also love experimenting, manipulating and exploring homemade kinetic sand in the sensory table. There are arctic animals, cookie cutters and scoops for them to use. At the science table is our science bin that has the "arctic" in it with Styrofoam icebergs, arctic animals, blue and white pebbles and water. It looks like a drier weather week and we could see the sun at weeks end! *Please send your child in FULL winter gear each day. The mornings are cold for opening and playground fun!*

Areas of Focus

Animals: Arctic



Literacy and Language



- Books: *Polar Bears, Antarctica, The Penguin Who Wanted to Fly, Welcome to the Ice House, I like a Snack on an Iceberg*
- Alphabet and Number Recognition "Ice Fishing"
- *Who Lives in the Arctic*, booklet

Focus Words

Antarctica * camouflage * predator * glacier

Math, Science, Sensory

- * Arctic Animal Count and Clip
- * Sensory Table: "Arctic" Kinetic Sand
- * Making a Stuffed Polar Bear
- * Marshmallow Igloos



Important News

- ➔ **Wednesday** is pizza day for those that ordered. Please, send morning snacks!
- ➔ **Friday** is spirit wear day for homecoming! Wear your best green and gold!