

What we did at school...

Green Room PM Program

October 28-November 21, 2019

We continue our active learning in the Green Room Preschool with an exploration of healthy living. Our topic of focus emerges from several observations and reflections:

- Many children have expressed interest in picking the ripening fruit growing in our outdoor classroom.
- The weather has become more crisp and cool in the morning; children are arriving to school in warmer clothes and additional layers.
- Children have expressed excitement over Halloween and the candies they will collect.
- Children converse with adults about their out-of-school recreational activities, including dance and soccer.



Indoor Classroom Work Time...

The **House Area** was modified to include a farm and farmer's market. The children took on different roles as they played—farmer, checker, and customers. The market provided an ideal context to explore literacy (e.g., reading store signs, writing lists), healthy living (e.g., "grow foods" and "sometimes foods"), and exchange of resources (e.g., play money for play food).



Children continued to enjoy reading books alone, in pairs, or small-groups with caregivers in the **Book Area**. *Feast for Ten* was made available as an audio book.



In the **Math and Games Area** the children furthered their understanding of number sense by filling Unifix Cubes trays up to ten. They explored basic shape attributes by sorting geometric pieces into two categories, those with sides and corners, or those with no sides and corners. Children were also prompted to use their classification skills by doing a color sort of small manipulatives.



Small farms were created in the **Block Area**. Some children built individual farms that they then connected to other structures, such as farmer's markets and grocery stores. Adults supported children's work by making signs and modeling collaborative play.



In addition to spontaneous writing explorations, children made "Alphabet Soup" in **The Office**. Toy cans included ingredients for every letter in the alphabet. Children dictated their recipes to staff.



The children furthered their understanding of color and color mixing in the **Art Area**. They chose from a selection of both primary and secondary colored paints to make salad spinner art. They also developed their drawing skills by creating their own images Mat Man.



After several children expressed interest in keeping their play dough creations, we added clay to the **Play Dough Table**. The children were invited to explore freely or to help create fairy homes using sticks and clay.



The children worked their muscles and practiced endurance in the **Music and Movement Area**. They rolled dice to determine the number of repetitions of a particular movement, like jumping jacks. They also practiced yoga movements on mats.



We observed children working individually and in pairs to problem-solve the new manipulatives in the Toy Area.



Outdoor Classroom Work Time...
We added some new materials to learning areas in the Outdoor Classroom.



Under the awning the children played with scented playdough. New drums were added to the Music and Movement Area.

Lourdes shared a seasonal oral story about weaving an autumn blanket during outdoor group time.

