



Pre~K 4

Weekly Learning Highlights
Week 5 | Day 1

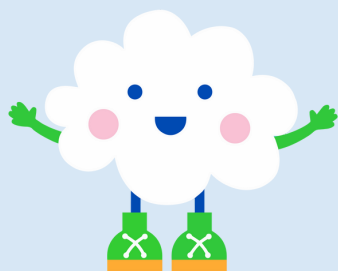
STEAM

Today we *Explored the Balancing Scale with Weighted Bears!* This activity will provide children the opportunity to observe and describe observable phenomena as they learn to use a balance scale. Children use fine motor skills to gently place bears on the scale as they learn to work together. With adult support, children are able to use the balance scale as a measurement tool and discuss the weights of the different bears and observe the effects they have on the scale. Children practice turn-taking and cooperation skills as they work with the concept of varying weight of objects.



Interactive Reading

We read about story about a scientist named Ada in the book, "*Ada Twist, Scientist.*" We first over the different parts of the book, and then we observed that books have titles, authors, and illustrators. As we listened to the story and verbally respond when asked questions to make predictions, we demonstrated knowledge and understanding. This story also exposed us to new vocabulary associated with science and technology. Ask me to tell you something about Ada!



Physical Development

Chalk, Chalk, Go Away, we created art creations while exploring with chalk, paintbrushes, and water. We had to use our arms, wrist, hands, and fingers to refine our grasp to create artwork chalk creations and then manipulate the wet paint brushes and spray bottles. As we observed the changes the water made to the chalk, we developed an understanding that water has different states/phases. We also observed and discussed the effects of drying and evaporation of water on the chalk surface.



Cognitive

What is a community and who lives in it? During our *Picture My Community*, we talked with our teacher about our community and what type buildings that are in it. After we talked about the different buildings in our community, we went outside and took pictures around our school to create a picture display. On our way home ask me to point out some buildings that I think are important.



Language & Literacy

We Introduced a new *Weekly Alphabet Routine* today to help us recognize and name the first letter of most peers' names and begin to understand that letters have sounds. We practiced our Animal Alphabet Chant while using a chart that had us identify letters and put letter sounds to movement. Singing and dancing activities also give us the opportunity to demonstrate self-control and follow simple directions. Ask me to tell you what letters I learned today!



Pre~K 4 Weekly Learning Highlights Week 5 | Day 2

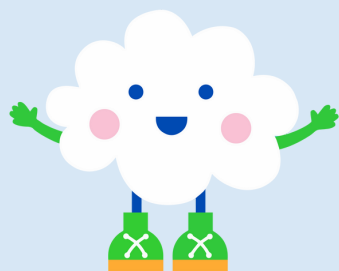


Interactive Reading

Our teacher shared a fun story called “*If You Give A Mouse A Cookie*.” We heard about a silly mouse who kept wanting to do different things, and responding to different questions gave us the opportunity to attend to communication and language from others and become a part of the story. We also gained an understanding of the connection between print, oral language, and illustrations as we listened and watched for the next thing the mouse was going to ask for. Ask me what I thought about the story!

STEAM

We experimented with *Tornados in a Bottle*, using previously learned vocabulary to describe the movements of the water in the bottles. This also gave us the opportunity to learn to work together in the same space through cooperation as a team to create new sensory tornado bottles for the classroom. We increased our vocabulary through everyday communication as we used language to describe observations and conclusions. During this unique fun sensory experience, we used simple tools to set up a science experiment correctly to experiment, observe, and increase understanding.



Language & Literacy

Do You Know the Muffin Man? We sang the song and looked at the words in the song to see what a question was. We learned that a question is an asking sentence and the answer is a telling sentence. All of this helps us begin to understand sentence structure and how communication works. Asking questions and making independent choices is a form of self-expression that contributes to our sense of self as competent person.



Physical Development

Today the teacher-led *Introduce Jazz: “Potato Chips”* activity. This activity provided us the opportunity to dance together with a friend to use perceptual information to guide motions and interactions with objects and other people. We also gained an understanding of the words jazz and trumpet through listening and responding to the music. Exposing us to different genres of music develops our appreciation of musical experiences later in life.



Cognitive

Did you know you don’t always need a ruler to make measurements? Today we learned how to measure different objects using a nonstandard form of measurement. We used books to measure different items in the classroom. We had to use mathematical terminology, like length and width, to describe what we were measuring helping reinforce new vocabulary. Ask some items I measured.



Pre~K 4 Weekly Learning Highlights Week 5 | Day 3



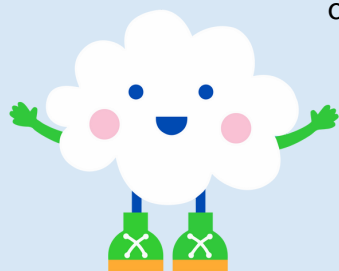
Language & Literacy

We practiced forming the letters in our first name and learned how to write on whiteboards during our Intro to *Dry Erase Boards* activity. We first practiced holding the dry-erase markers between our hands and fingers developing fine motor skills. We then practiced the steps for forming the letters in our name, giving us the opportunity to practice writing with different writing tools and developing our understanding of how print is used. We also learned that letters have a specific structure and pattern in their construction. Ask me what I wrote today.



Cognitive

Patterning is an important math skill as we learn early math. Recognizing and duplicating simple repeating patterns requires attention. As we *Demonstrate Clapping/Tapping with Patterns* helps us increase confidence and strengthen the connection in the brain to patterns in our environment. When we practice patterning, we hone our visual discrimination skills. Manipulating objects, such as the leaves, and creating patterns develop our fine and gross motor skills and our hand-eye coordination. We can practice simple repeating (AB) patterns at home with household items in two colors!



Interactive Reading

Reread the book “*If You Give A Mouse A Cookie*” to help us recall the details to be able to retell the story using props and characters. Revisiting stories provides us the opportunity to learn about the structure of a story as we are able to recount different parts from memory. We were also able to work on our social skills as we worked together to recount specific details to be able to retell the story accurately.



Physical Development

Up, down, and around, we challenged and moved our bodies during our *Obstacle Course: Introduction*. This activity provided us with the opportunity to recognize that physical activity is both fun and healthy. We also developed an understanding of position terms such as above, below, besides, and between and were able to engage in a physical activity that helps their body grow stronger. Ask me how I moved through the obstacles!

STEAM

Brrr when it gets cold, what happens to the water? We created an experiment to explore the different states of water during our *Water and Ice Investigation*. During this experiment, we posed hypothesis and work with our friends collaboratively to come up with answers. This also gave us the opportunity to work on new vocabulary skills as we discussed the process, shared ideas, and were able to make predictions.



Pre~K 4

Weekly Learning Highlights Week 5 | Day 4



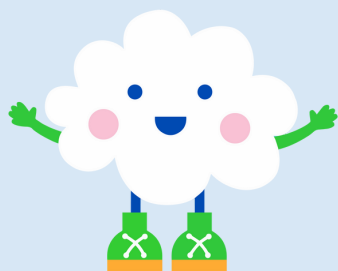
Cognitive

Today we got to enjoy painting at the table with our friends as we expressed ourselves creatively. during our *Jackson Pollock: Drip Painting with Spoons* activity! Creating art demonstrates increasing use of fine motor skills in creating art using various tools such as paint brushes and spoons. We begin to learn about the concept of abstract art and apply the knowledge to create original work for self-expression and to express individual creativity. Ask me about what I created!



Interactive Reading

We read a story called "*Jackson Pollock Splashed Paint and Wasn't Sorry.*" As our teacher read to us, we listened together with our friends to learn about the abstract artist, Jackson Pollock. We used our critical thinking skills to listen and discuss the artist's motivation behind his artwork and to become familiar with abstract art. This activity also provided us with the chance to learn an appreciation for different types of art and the creative work of others. Ask me what I learned about Jackson Pollack today!



STEAM

We continued our work with patterns during our *Patterns: Demonstrate with Boy/Girl* patterns activity today. This activity gave us the opportunity to feel confident about our patterning skills using AB patterns with our friends. We demonstrated our sense of awareness to maintain awareness of our bodies in relation to those of others as we formed a boy-girl line. We also had to use our listening skills and follow directions as we identified to create simple repeating patterns with adult support.



Language & Literacy

We played a fun game called *Do This Do That* with our teacher and friends. It was kind of like Simon says where one person would do an action and then you have to repeat that action back. We had to use our listening skills to be able to follow the directions of the person leading and do the proper movement back. This also helps me become aware of my body and where my position is in relation to space.



Physical Development

What would happen *If You Give a Kid a Ball?* We worked to coordinate to use our large muscles to perform more complex tasks as we rolled, tossed, bounced, and caught a ball with accuracy. We used position terms such as about, below, besides, and between, to communicate with our friends about where the ball would go. As we engaged with the balls, it gave us the opportunity to engage in a physical activity that helped our bodies grow stronger.



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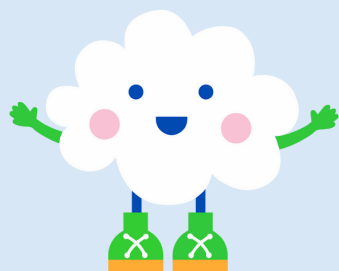
STEAM

Today, we read the book 'Be a Maker' and in the beginning, the girl makes a tall tower out of various wooden items. We explored with wooden loose parts to see what kind of tower we could make and *How Tall We Could Build It*. While participating in block construction, we are able to demonstrate self-direction while using materials, this supports self-regulation. We also learn to problem-solve to find out why the tower falls down or how we can make it bigger. Ask me about what I built today!



Physical Development

We had so much fun *Making Creations* with playdough today! We used play dough, rolling pins, popsicle sticks, and Q-tips to make marks, designs, and original creations out of play dough. This helped develop the small muscles in our hands by rolling, squeezing, and kneading the dough. We also enhanced our fine motor skills by grasping the nontraditional materials we put into the dough. We were able to explore and be curious about the materials we used. Ask me to tell you about my playdough creation!



Cognitive

We became cartographers today when we *Made Maps of Drury Lane*. With our teacher's help, we imagined what Drury Lane would look like and we designed our maps with buildings, streets, and roads on them. We showed self-expression by making independent choices as we choose materials and designed our own representations of an imaginary place. Creating a map allows us to explore, recognize, and describe spatial relationships between objects.



Language & Literacy

Today we completed our *Weekly Journal Entries* about *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*.... This activity gave us the opportunity to recall a story and create a new scene if we choose to. Journaling provides children the opportunity to express their thoughts in drawing and writing. This activity will also provide children the opportunity to demonstrate an understanding of how print is used and the rules that govern how print works.



Interactive Reading

Our teacher read a story called "*Be a Maker*," we observed the pictures and learned about what a maker is. We gained new vocabulary and an understanding of new concepts through a book. Listening to a story read aloud also teaches us to recognize patterns in the story through language, and early literacy skills such as reading from left to right and putting together the print we see to the words they make! Let's talk about these concepts of print when we read together.