



Pre~K 4

Daily Learning Highlights Week 17 | Day 1



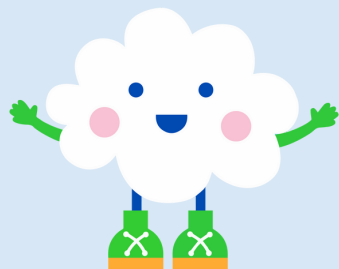
Physical Development

KICKBALL!!! It was so much fun to kick the ball back and forth with our friends today. As we *Kicked a Ball to a Friend* it helped us develop our leg muscles, balance, and gross motor skills and to work on controlling our movement and strength when we kick the ball. Too hard it goes past our partner, not hard enough it's out of our partner's reach. We also develop good sportsmanship as we help each other out and learn patience as we wait for our turn, at this age these simple things sometimes seem so hard for us!



Interactive Reading

We read the story "*Where are You*" by Sarah Williamson. It was such a great story about a little green snake following a little pink Snake. The little pink snake kept moving around and the green one had to find her, she went on a boat, past a fish, up a lamp post, and so many more places! This story allowed us to enhance our spatial awareness and words and vocabulary that we can use when we say where things and people are. As we read and discussed the story and answered questions about it, we continued to learn how to make predictions from pictures and use descriptive and expressive language as well as recognize patterns in the environment through language.



STEAM

Where Does Pink Playdough Come From? We discovered how to make pink playdough and it was AWESOME! We had the opportunity to use measuring tools such as measuring cups and measuring spoons, which help us understand the concept of amounts and how they are measured, these are important math skills. We had to follow the steps of the recipe preparing us for scientific process and inquiry. Making the dough for ourselves also allows us to see that we are capable of accomplishing complex tasks and doing things for ourselves!



Language & Literacy

B, B what starts with B? We were *Introduced to the Letter B*, where we used our Animal Alphabet Poster to sing and point out the letter Bb. This gave us the opportunity to identify letters of the alphabet and produce correct sounds associated with the letter, as well as identify words that begin with the sound of the letter B. We also began to recognize that there are rules for how letters and words are constructed.



Cognitive

We enjoyed a dramatic play experience where we *Hosted a Cooking Show in Dramatic Play!* We incorporated the tools we used when we made the play dough to pretend, we are cooking and are chefs! Playing together and pretending fosters cooperative play, which is very important at our age. Cooperative Play, playing the same thing with others, improves the quality of the relationships we have with others as well as our ability to share. Playing with others also teaches us to cope with challenges, knowing that others go through the same things and have our backs.



Pre~K 4 Daily Learning Highlights Week 17 | Day 2



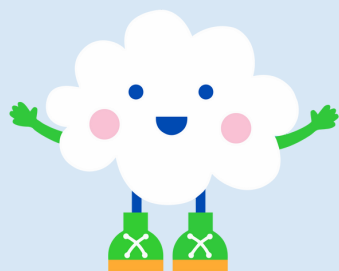
Physical Development

We listened to *Country Music: Introduce and dance to "Old Town Road,"* by KidzBop was so cool! It exposed us to a new genre of music and it was so cool to dance to. Did you know that when we dance, we are learning how to move our bodies to the rhythm of music and we use and develop our spatial awareness skills when we try to stay in our place while we move? Dancing also develops and gives us the opportunity to use our large muscles and gross motor skills. Singing provides the opportunity to attend to sounds in music and lyrics, as well as helps us understand what comes next following cues and patterns in a song.



Cognitive

We studied *Spatial Concepts: Build a bridge – Where is the ____?* Which was a fun game we played and this was challenging! To play this game we used small objects to place around the bridges we built and then asked "Where is it?"; after asking someone from the group had to use positional words to explain where it was. We said things such as, "It is under the bridge.", "It is next to the bridge.", etc. This showed our understanding of spatial concepts and language, as well as giving us the opportunity to draw conclusions based on evidence. This all makes our brain really work, and use our cognitive skills!



Interactive Reading

We re-read the book "*Where are You?*" about the two snakes. After listening to our teacher read the story and helping her find the pink worm in the pictures, we used the pink playdough we made yesterday and made our own little pink snake and moved it around! It was so much fun to interact with the class and the story! This enhanced our spatial awareness as well as developing our fine motor skills when we made the snakes.

STEAM

Yesterday we experimented with different ways to color playdough and today we explored a different medium, fabric, to experiment with how to make *Colorful Clothes*. This was a fun experiment we problem-solved with different ways we could turn scraps of fabrics into colorful clothing. We learned to demonstrate persistence when encountering setbacks and with adult encouragement they continue to practice to improve their skills. Ask me which method worked best to color our fabrics!



Language & Literacy

The *Alphabet BINGO* was so much fun! We had bingo cards with the letters of the alphabet and as we listened to the letter names being said we marked them on our board until someone got a BINGO!! This activity was not only fun, but it also allowed us to use our auditory and visual skills to hear the name of the letter and find the written one on our board. This helps us enhance our letter recognition, something we need to read.



Pre~K 4 Daily Learning Highlights Week 17 | Day 3

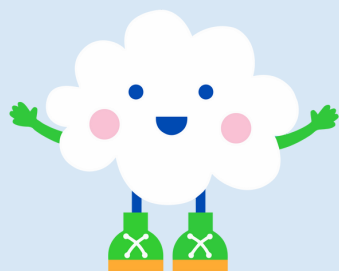
STEAM

After reading the book about Henri Matisse's life we traced stencils in the free forms that Henri used in his collages as we explored with *Light and Art*. Tracing stencils was a lot tougher than we thought it was going to be. It takes a lot of concentration and focus to keep the writing tool on the edge of the stencil. But it was so much fun and very cool to trace free-form shapes, shapes that have no name! As we trace, we develop our complex fine motor skills as well as our skills to concentrate and gain control of our muscles and movements. Seeing these free forms teaches us that art can be even more creative than we thought!



Physical Development

Dancing is always so much fun. We can twirl, jump, sway, and move to rhythm! As we dance, we learn how to control movements to different parts of our body and also participate in parallel play with our friends. Today we danced and sang to the song "*If You Know All the Seasons*." Singing provides the opportunity to attend to sounds in music and lyrics, as well as helps us understand what comes next following cues and patterns in a song. Some early literacy skills that we need for reading such as phonological awareness, narrative skills, and gaining new vocabulary, this song taught us vocabulary that has to do with the seasons, are enhanced by singing.



Cognitive

Over, under, and all around is how we had to move our pencils when we practiced *Tracing Stencils*. This activity provided us with the opportunity to exhibit complex fine motor coordination as we used writing tools to trace irregular shapes like hearts and stars. We had to use all of our focus and concentration to make purposeful movements on the paper. This activity also provided us with the opportunity to realize a sense of pride when seeing a project through to completion.



Language & Literacy

We revisited some familiar books as we Read "*B*" *Books with a Friend!* During this activity we sat next to a peer, sharing one book or we each looked at the same copy of a book while we pretended to read the book and retold the story with accuracy. This activity provided us with the opportunity to listen to stories read aloud and we showed an understanding through body language or by interacting appropriately. We also demonstrated spatial awareness while sitting together in a shared space.



Interactive Reading

The book "*Henri's Scissors*" by Jennette Winter is the story of the artist Henri Matisse, a very famous French artist who used a lot of colors and abstract shapes in his paintings. Later in his life Henri got sick and could not paint so he started using scissors to cut up colorful paint and make collages. This book told us his story! As we read and discussed the story and answered questions about it, we continued to learn how to make predictions from pictures and use descriptive and expressive language as well as recognize patterns in the environment through language.



Pre~K 4

Daily Learning Highlights

Week 17 | Day 4



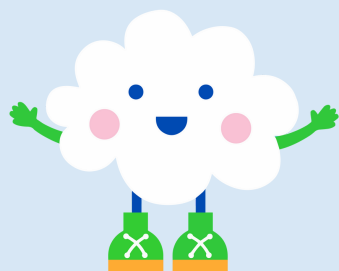
Physical Development

We used scissors just like Henri Matisse to cut the free forms we traced yesterday. Our teacher went with us over the proper and safe way to use scissors as we practiced *Cutting Shapes Like Matisse*. Using scissors helps us develop hand-eye coordination as well as bilateral coordination which allows us to be able to coordinate separate movements with our hands. Cutting also teaches us to independently move our fingers, which will help us write, as well as enhance our fine motor skills and development.



Cognitive

How Many? We increased our number sense skills as we used subitizing cards to count up to 5 objects. This activity provided us with the opportunity to follow multi-step directions with support using prior knowledge of subitizing to build new knowledge. We also demonstrated spatial awareness, how to listen, and follow directions, and subitize gaining an understanding of the relationship between numerals and sets of objects. We also had the chance to subitize numbers 1-5 by showing the same number of fingers as the cards.



Interactive Reading

We read the story “*The Hat*” by Jan Brett, this book tells the story of some animals who live in a cold and snowy place. All the animals in the story discover a hat that fell off a clothesline but they don't know what to do with it, well except Hedgie that is! When we are read to, we gain new vocabulary and understanding of new concepts. It also teaches us to recognize patterns in the environment through language. We are also provided the opportunity to ask and answer questions about the story which develops our cognitive abilities.



Language & Literacy

Simon Says “Hand in the Air”! It was so exciting to play *Simon Says* with our friends as we explored *Spatial Concepts*! Playing it gave us the opportunity to use our bodies to explore our environment and to exercise our gross motor skills and muscles. Playing Simon Says helps us learn the names of our body parts and how they can move. We had to use our critical listening skills and focus our attention to follow the directions and get it right! These are all very important language skills.

STEAM

The Dolls Want Hats! We were helpers today as we looked around and used available classroom materials to make warm hats for dolls or stuffed animals. During this activity, we learned to connect the vocabulary from the story “The Hat” to talk about the properties of heat transfer. This allowed me to demonstrate my understanding of simple tools and how they are useful as we developed our knowledge related to physical science. We also showed self-confidence as we willingly took on new and unfamiliar tasks.



Pre~K 4 Daily Learning Highlights Week 17 | Day 5

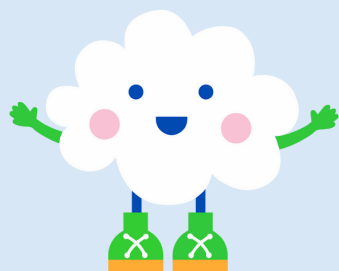


Cognitive

We had SO much fun playing *Where is the Hat* with our teacher and class. This game allowed us to continue enhancing our understanding of spatial concepts and directional vocabulary. Our teacher went around the class “hiding” her hat and we had to tell her where it was, we communicated after looking for an observable date, “the hat is ON your head”, “it is UNDER the chair” or “the hat’s NEXT TO the desk”. This allows us to improve our understanding of math concepts such as the recognition of how a person or object interacts with the space it occupies.

STEAM

We used our problem-solving skills to complete an experiment as we asked what natural ingredients could be used to stain out of the fabric that we stained this week. During our *Naturally Clean* experiment, we learned to demonstrate persistence when encountering setbacks, and with adult encouragement, and continued to practice to improve our skills. We also demonstrated our scientific inquiry skills and learned new vocabulary related to scientific ideas clearly. Ask me which natural material worked best to remove the stains!



Physical Development

What can we make? We explored *Making Mixtures* as we combined different sensory materials to create new materials that look and smell different from the original materials we were given. This was a new activity for many of us but with our teacher’s guidance, we were able to transition well into new, unfamiliar settings. This supports our developing social relationships and the development of our sense of self with others.



Interactive Reading

We enjoyed a story called “*A Perfect Mess*” by Steve Breen which is about Henry who is one messy rhino, but he tries his best to stay clean for a very important day. Learning about the sequences and events happening in stories can help us learn routines and develop reading comprehension skills as well as basic scientific inquiry. As we listened to the story, we recognized ourselves as unique individuals and became aware of the uniqueness of others as we related our personal experiences and feelings to those of the characters in the book.



Language & Literacy

We worked on our *Weekly Journals Entires* where we used our Science Through My Senses journal to write or draw about our observations during our Messy Science activity. Writing in a journal provides us with the opportunity to express our thoughts in drawing and writing form. We demonstrated an understanding of how print is used and the rules that govern how print works as we wrote about what our favorite science activity was. We also had to reflect and recall the details of our observations we chose what to draw or write about.