



Pre~K 4
Daily Learning Highlights
Week 42 | Day 1

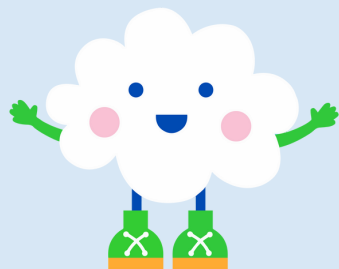
STEAM

We explored with our friends during *Hammer Time* activity. The purpose for this experience was for us to combine two or more everyday objects to create new objects while creating a tool for hammering. First, we looked at pictures of hammers and discussed the features of them. Next, our teacher invited us to use other items to “hammer” golf tees into a styrofoam block, just like carpenters hammer nails into wood. Before we began, we put on safety goggles. Learning how to hammer, before we actually hammer, is a safe way to practice the motions, or mechanics, of hammering.



Physical Development

Johnny Works with One Hammer is a traditional song about a carpenter. This was also a song that helped us develop our number sense as we use one on one correspondence to count out the hammers in the song. While singing and dancing to two different versions of the song, we worked on accurately participating in a movement song that required frequent changes in movement without faltering or bumping into other people during the activity. Learning to coordinate more than one task at a time helps us to focus and develop self regulation skills as we participate in dancing to express our own creativity.



Interactive Reading

I enjoyed when our teacher read "*Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus*" during our *Author Study*. It helped us understand complex communication and language. We learned about titles, authors, and illustrators. We discussed the story, answered questions, drew conclusions, and recalled information. It was interactive and we explained using objects in new situations. This activity helped us interact with the text and reflect on it. I'm grateful for this fun and educational reading experience.



Language & Literacy

Making Our Menus for our *Community Cafe* in our dramatic play center, was a wonderful way to connect our homes to our school environment. Using pictures of foods/recipes or recycled food boxes/containers from our homes, we each created a page for our menu book that we will be able to use in our new “cafe.” We are looking forward to being able to celebrate and “make” foods from home when we are the “chef!”



Cognitive

Predicting Patterns was a workout for my math brain! I focused on predicting what comes next when a complex pattern is extended, with my teacher’s verbal prompting and encouragement. After making sure I knew how to predict an AB pattern, my teacher displayed ABB patterns and ABC patterns for me to guess what would come next in the pattern. I like these kinds of games!



Pre~K 4 Daily Learning Highlights Week 42 | Day 2



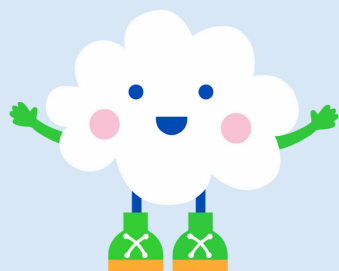
Physical Development

Subitize and Jump was such a fun activity where we successfully jumped for height and distance while we used an agility ladder. During this activity, we rolled a giant dice and then jumped that many times along the ladder. As we practiced our balance and coordination skills we developed the large muscles in our legs and core. We also demonstrated spatial awareness, listening, following directions, and subitizing while gaining understanding of the relationship between numerals and sets of objects.



Language & Literacy

Using Our Conversation Rules was a great opportunity to enhance my conversational abilities. As we engaged in conversation with a fellow classmate, we made sure to maintain eye contact, exchange greetings, actively listen when it was their turn to speak, and patiently wait for our turn to contribute. Moreover, we enthusiastically shared details about our weekend activities and favorite dishes enjoyed during family celebrations. This interactive experience allowed us to foster deeper connections with our friends, ultimately creating a more enjoyable social atmosphere.



STEAM

We began our study of spoon *Catapults* last week. We enjoyed part 2, “*Will It Launch?*” today. The focus of this experience was for us to consistently and accurately utilize learned vocabulary to describe varied rates of speed and motion as we launched warrior projectiles, such as pom poms, marshmallows, small paper balls, with plastic spoon catapults. Ask me what I thought of our catapult experience!



Cognitive

Yesterday we extended patterns and today we had the chance to *Copy Patterns*. Our objective this time was to duplicate increasingly more complex patterns, with verbal prompting and encouragement. Engagement in math exploration helps us develop confidence in our ability to understand and engage in mathematical concepts. This activity helps us develop the skills needed to persist and complete assigned tasks.



Interactive Reading

We were introduced to *Anno's Counting Book*; a simple, wordless book with many opportunities to invent different stories. The objective was for us to accurately predict the main idea of a story prior to reading by using the title of the book, the picture on the book cover, and a 'picture walk.' The author, Mitsumasa Anno, was born and raised in Japan and we found the country on our map. We will use this book over the next few weeks to support our math and science learning.



Pre~K 4 Daily Learning Highlights Week 42 | Day 3

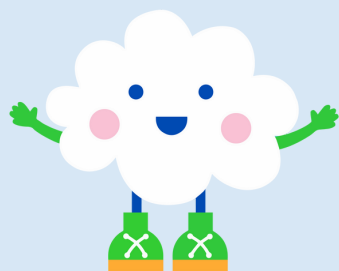
STEAM

Our teacher asked, “Would you like to *Make Your Own Catapults?*” in part 3 of our catapult study. We worked on combining two or more everyday objects to create a catapult. First, we looked at pictures of catapults to learn more about them. Next, we recalled the spoon catapults we used last week. Finally, we chose materials from the table (or around the room) and worked to make our own catapult. Tomorrow we will test them! Ask me about the materials I used to make my catapult!



Interactive Reading

Listening to the story, “*My Bed, Enchanting Ways to Fall Asleep Around the World*” was a wonderful way to discover that we are all so very different, but so truly the same. The objective was for us to make story connections while listening to a story about wonderful ways children around the world fall asleep. We expanded our self-awareness as we compared and contrasted commonalities between ourselves and other children around the world. We learned that we all fall asleep, but in different ways, at different times, and in different types of beds!



Cognitive

We spent the last week preparing for our *Community Cafe* and we really enjoyed our time there today. We stretched our imaginations as we utilized different objects as substitutes for specific props that were not accessible during dramatic play, with minimal verbal prompting from our teacher. We have so many items on our cafe menu and we wanted to try to find things that would look like the foods we were “making” when we had our turn as the chef!



Physical Development

We used a combination of the large muscles in our arms, hands, legs, and feet to move through the game of *Pilolo*. First, we learned that *Pilolo* is a game that is popular in Ghana, a country on the African continent.

Then we found the country of Ghana, and the continent of Africa, on the map. How far away from Ghana are we? Let’s find ourselves on the map. Finally, we played *Pilolo*, which is like a treasure hunt and race all in one game!



Language & Literacy

Get Up and Go was a fantastic activity that allowed us to practice our listening skills and follow instructions accurately outside of the classroom. Our teacher would call our names individually, and we were required to complete three tasks: standing up, turning around to face the outer part of the circle, and then lining up near the door. Although it may seem straightforward, mastering multi-step directions can be quite challenging for kids our age!



Pre~K 4 Daily Learning Highlights Week 42 | Day 4

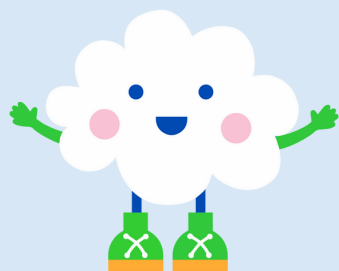


Interactive Reading

The activity *Reading Rebus Rhymes and Songs* supported us in utilizing symbol knowledge to read rebus stories. We learned that in a rebus story some of the words are replaced with pictures. We 'read' the pictures just like we read written words. This book is a collection of many different songs and nursery rhymes. We were able to "read" the following words in the rhyme 'Hey Diddle Diddle the Cat and the Fiddle': cat, fiddle, cow, moon. I wonder if we can find rebus stories at the library!

STEAM

Catapults 4 brought us to the *Testing Phase* of our study! Our goal this time was to experiment with varied movements of different projectiles with a catapult that was constructed from a combination of everyday objects. We used pom poms, marshmallows, small paper balls, balls of playdough and other items. Some of us had to problem solve why our catapult wasn't working and then try to build it again. Our teacher encouraged us without telling us what to do!



Physical Development

Yesterday we played *Pilolo from Ghana* and today we played *Halászás* from Hungary. Of course, we also looked on our map to find out where Hungary is, compared to where we are. We learned that *Halászás* is a game very similar, or the same, to Tag. The word, 'Halászás' means 'fishing'. In this game, there is one person who is the 'fisher' and everyone else pretends to be the 'fish'. We think it is interesting that we play games that are very similar to kids in other countries, with a little bit of a different twist!



Language & Literacy

I reviewed "Anno's Counting Book" by Mitsumasa Anno and then made *My Counting Book*. We had a variety of materials to choose from such as number stamps, stamp pads, colored pencils, thick markers, thin markers, etc. We decided to use the number stamps to number each page from 1 - 10, and then we drew a set of something to correspond with the number on each page. This was Part 1, and next week we will finish the book!



Cognitive

Seriating 5 Objects presented a little bit of a challenge because we had many items to choose from. Some of the items were small rocks, shells, toy cars, pine cones, plastic animals, crayons, and more. First, we needed to choose a set of 5 items. Then we seriated the 5 objects that had a minimal difference in length or size. Some of us seriated from smallest to biggest, and others from biggest to smallest.



Pre~K 4 Daily Learning Highlights Week 42 | Day 5



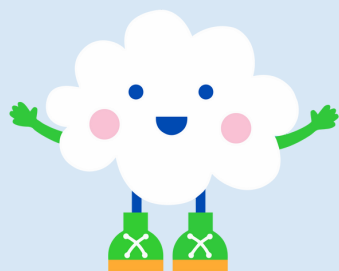
Language & Literacy

We completed our *Weekly Journal Entry* where we each got our "Let's Pretend" journals and used crayons and pencils to draw and write about a place in the world we'd love to visit. We remembered all the cool places we learned about this year. I drew and wrote about what I'd see, hear, smell, taste, and touch there, and how I'd travel. Our teacher helped us talk about our drawings and even wrote down our words to show how speaking turns into writing. Some of us tried writing words too! It was really fun to think about visiting new places and sharing our ideas!



Interactive Reading

"*Bread, Bread, Bread*" is a wonderful book! We talked about the book by Ann Morris, remembering different types of breads from around the world. After rereading the book, we shared about the breads we eat at home and our teacher wrote them down. Then, we made labels for the breads in our Community Cafe. We chose our favorite breads and used different paper and writing tools to make labels. Some of us asked for help to write the names right. We even drew pictures of the breads on our labels. It was so creative and fun!



STEAM

In our *Catapults 5, Analyzing Data* activity, we got to use catapults to launch cool things like pom poms and ping pong balls! We aimed at colorful tape lines and then marked how far each thing went on a big chart. We were little scientists, investigating which one flew the farthest. We talked about what we saw, and guessed why some things didn't go as far. It was so much fun learning about catapults and data!



Cognitive

We used our drawing and engineering skills during the activity called *Using Blueprints to Build*. We drew our own blueprints first, and then we used different shaped blocks to build structures just like our plans. We learned about making our buildings stable and strong. We used cylinders, cubes, and more. Our teacher helped us understand why some designs are more stable than others. It was super exciting to see our blueprint drawings turn into real block structures!



Physical Development

The "*Hoop Game*" was a blast! It's similar to musical chairs, but we used hoops and a drum, inspired by a Native American game sometimes played at Pow Wows. We excitedly ran around hoops, listening to the drumbeat, and quickly found a hoop when the music stopped. It was challenging but really fun, teaching us to be careful and support our friends. We felt like we were part of a lively Pow Wow and can't wait to play again!