



Preschool 3

Daily Learning Highlights

Week 11 | Day 1



Language & Literacy

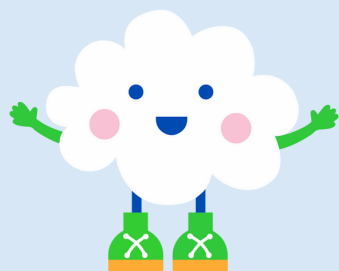
We explored writing using our fingers during our *Letters with Straight Lines* activity. This activity will provide children the opportunity to demonstrate an understanding of how print is used and the rules that govern how print works. Writing different letters, such as T, L, E, F, I, etc. in playdough allowed us to start to identify, form, and construct letters of the alphabet and produce correct sounds associated with letters. As we practiced this fun and easy activity, we are given the opportunity to feel confident with writing letters of the alphabet.

Ask me which letters I made!



Interactive Reading

Today we read the book *"The Busy Tree"* with our teacher where we explored a forest tree as a habitat where animals use it to get food, water, shelter, and a place to raise baby animals. Group stories give us the opportunity to listen to a story as we interacted with our friends while we have a discussion about what we are reading. We also extended and expanded our thoughts and expressed ideas about the trees that we see outside and the possible animals that use it to live and survive.



Cognitive

Sorting and categorizing familiar objects helps us understand patterns and see how things are alike and different. Today we sorted and created *Acorn Sets* which was a great way for us to develop our mathematical skills by categorizing, distinguishing, and counting similar objects with different distinguishing features. As we properly matched the two acorns together and matched them into a set, we grew our confidence in our ability to create pairs.

STEAM

What colors can we see in the forest? We explored the *Colors of the Forest* using different natural materials such as acorns, rocks, colored paddles, glass gems, etc. on our light table. Exploring the light table with different materials gives us the opportunity to develop vocabulary associated with the properties of light and demonstrate knowledge related to physical science.



Physical Development

Breathe in and breathe out, we calmed our bodies and minds as we explored *Forest Inspired Yoga*. It was challenging to maintain balance as we moved from one position to another as we changed direction while participating in our group yoga activity. Participating in yoga increased our gross motor skills in strength, endurance, and flexibility as we used observation and imitation to transfer knowledge to new experiences. Ask what my favorite yoga position was!



Preschool 3 Daily Learning Highlights Week 11 | Day 2



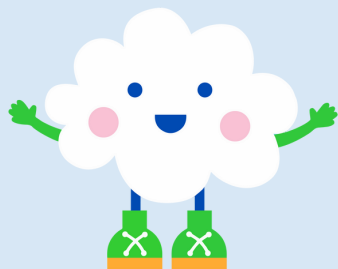
Language & Literacy

We moved and danced with our friends while singing the song "*A-Camping We Will Go*." While singing, we recognized patterns in the song and respond appropriately to repeated phrases. We also bonded with our teacher through supportive interactions as we expanded on our thoughts and knowledge of camping. By participating in a group, we developed positive relationships singing alongside our friends, we learned to match pitch and rhythm. We also demonstrated impulse control, taking turns as they wait to participate at different times in the songs.



Physical Development

We played in the mud today! We explored with *Trucks in the Mud* where we drove our toy trucks through different muddy obstacles. Mud play promotes physical development by using large muscle skills to develop as we dig, rake, drive, etc. Pouring, scooping, and sifting help us with our hand-eye coordination, fine motor skills, as well as our visual perception. This type of sensory activity also promotes social skills and enhances our communication development. Ask me how dirty my truck got!



STEAM

We put used our investigation skills as used magnifying glasses to complete a *Forest Sensory Bin* discovery. We had to use our senses and other tools to investigate and make comparisons of the forest animals we found in the sensory bin. We talked about the animals we found and where they may live or what they eat. We also controlled our hands and fingers to use a magnifying glass and observe nature items. Ask me what forest animals I found!



Interactive Reading

We took a picture walk today using the story "*Little Blue Truck*" where we helped predict the main idea of the story with our teacher's modeling and support. This activity gave us the opportunity to sit and listen to stories read to us as we listened with our friends. Group readings also helps us demonstrate spatial awareness as we make space to sit together and show an understanding through our body language.



Cognitive

There was *Order in the Forest* today as we seriated, or arranged in a sequence, forest animals by size. We got to not only sort but we got to see and manipulate the different animals to compare them to each other based on their size. Sorting by a single attribute helps us understand how to focus on one single thing at a time. Sorting by colors or sizes was a great way for us to develop our mathematical skills by categorizing and counting objects. It also grew our confidence and ability to sort.



Preschool 3

Daily Learning Highlights

Week 11 | Day 3



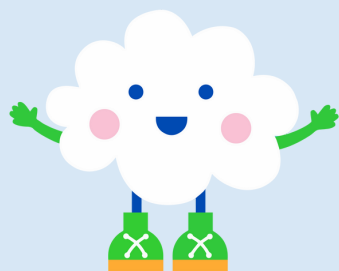
Physical Development

We had a full sensory experience today while pretending to work at the *Car Wash*. While participating in this activity with friends, we listened and attended to the language for directions. Completing this activity provided us with the opportunity to develop our spatial awareness and perseverance while following the teacher's guided directions to understand what comes next in the stages of washing cars. We also demonstrated gross motor skills using our large muscles to wash the cars during this water sensory play activity.



Interactive Reading

Our teacher read the story "*Owl Babies*," by Martin Wadell which is about three owl babies who are missing their mother and wondering when she would come back. As we listened to the story, we were provided with the opportunity to listen to a story about working together to solve a problem which reinforced the concept of animals that live in the forest. We also had to recall information from listening to the story being read to be able to ask and answer simple questions about the story. Sharing new stories with children allows them to show interest in learning new concepts and trying new experiences.



Cognitive

We love to dance, and today we sang and danced with scarves to "*The Best Classical Music - Fall Firest*" song. *Fall Forest Dancing* was so colorful to watch all the scarves dancing together and moving in different directions. While we listen and dance to the song, we are using perceptual information to guide our motions and interactions. Dancing strengthens, and develops our muscles as well as our coordination, it is an excellent form of exercise and teaches us kinesthetic memory.

STEAM

We extended our Interactive Reading activity by having an *I Wonder: An Owl Investigation* as we learned new vocabulary about owls in their natural environment. We took a picture walk through "*Owl Babies*" and wrote on chart paper what we wanted to learn about owls. We learned about brainstorming and what type of technology we could use to learn more about owls. Ask me what I wanted to learn about!



Language & Literacy

Tony Chestnut was one of the silliest songs I have ever heard! We had so much fun engaging in this new song and we got to move our bodies as we identified and named various body parts in the lyrics. With our teacher's encouragement, we felt more confident about learning different body parts in a fun and exciting way. We also had the opportunity to understand what comes next in the song as we listened and followed the cues and patterns of the new song.



Preschool 3 Daily Learning Highlights Week 11 | Day 4

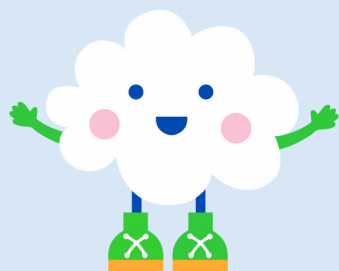
STEAM

We created using *Forest-Inspired Playdough*, where we had playdough, natural materials, and different forest animals to create original playdough creations. We used leaves and sticks to make marks and designs on playdough and animals to pretend within the forest we made. 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 natural materials we put into the dough. We were able to explore and be curious about the materials we used.



Physical Development

What do you think about when you hear the word forest? We thought about trees, so today we went outside to *Find a Special Tree* using our senses of sight, sound, and touch. Going outside gives us the opportunity to explore nature within our surroundings we explored all the different properties such as bark texture, height, leaves, etc, that trees have. Being able to make choices, such as choosing which tree to explore, helps us develop a sense of self and learned that our ideas are valued while sometimes different from those of others. Ask me which tree I chose!



Language & Literacy

We sang and moved our bodies to *We are Going on a Bear Hunt!* It was challenging but so much fun to follow multi-step directions as we acted out this action song. We had to demonstrate impulse control as we engaged in group play in a structured, physical activity. This activity also provided us with the opportunity to follow directions in a fun and engaging song while simulating various emotions from fearful, to brave. As we moved our bodies in response to the words of the song, followed different directional phrases such as over and under.



Cognitive

What is a Rainbow? Today we talked about rainbows and how they make us feel, most of us feel calm or happy when we see a rainbow. During our *Breathing in a Rainbow of Colors*, we practiced breathing to the colors of the rainbow to help us when we feel sad or mad. Helping us identify big emotions teaches us to describe how we are feeling and how to help us feel better and teaches us about self-control and how to self-calm.



Interactive Reading

Our story "*Because of an Acorn*" taught us all about acorns, what they are and where they come from. We learned that acorns are seeds that grow on trees, they have hard coverings to protect the seed that will eventually turn into an oak tree. This story helped us learn more about planets and their lifecycles. Sharing new stories allows us to learn new vocabulary and how it relates to our environment.



Preschool 3 Daily Learning Highlights Week 11 | Day 5



Physical Development

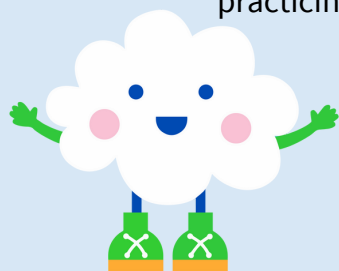
Can you hit the target? We had a blast playing *Target Toss* today where we threw a tennis ball or bean bag underhand and attempted to hit a large target 3 to 5 feet away. We engaged in cooperative play with other children as we recognized that physical activity is both fun and healthy while using eye-hand coordination to aim at a target. We

also began to explore and recognize spatial relationships between objects to understand what comes next in the game by following cues and prompts. Tossing or throwing objects, helps us learn about force and describe the motion of objects, and count using one-to-one correspondence.



Interactive Reading

We had a full reading experience outside when our teacher brought some familiar books to share under the *Reading Tree*. We brought some stuffed animal friends to help us choose what forest-related books we wanted to read together. We had to use good sportsmanship because maybe the book we wanted to read did not get picked, and if it did, we had to be nice to those that wanted a different story. We learned that this is how the voting goes, the majority gets to decide! As our teacher read we were engaged in the story and gained an appreciation for books as well as continued practicing rhyming.



STEAM

What do you think you can find in a cave? We learned new vocabulary associated with light and explored its properties after revisiting the story "*We're Going on a Bear Hunt*." We explored how to illuminate the "cave" by playing with our friends by using self-talk and open-ended prompts to extend our thinking as we explored using open-ended materials. We were also able to demonstrate knowledge related to physical science as we engaged in this imaginative play experience.



Language & Literacy

We learned about how we can help the forest and its trees during our *Save the Paper* activity. During this activity, we learned to develop an understanding that different writing tools are selected and used for different purposes. We also learned that we don't have to create artwork using paper, did you know chalk or dry-erase boards/markers teach the same skills as drawing on paper but without the waste? Writing with a variety of drawing materials we develop the strength and control in our hands and fingers.



Cognitive

Different? Same! was a fun and engaging activity where we took our prior knowledge about the forest animals we have been learning about to sort by one attribute. Sorting by a single attribute helps us understand how to focus on one single thing at a time. Sorting by colors or sizes was a great way for us to develop our mathematical skills by categorizing and counting objects. It also grew our confidence and ability to sort.