



Starfish Room

February, 2008

Dear Starfish Parents,

We let the animals loose in the Starfish room in February! We learned about farm animals and sea animals. We played animal action games by moving and dancing like different animals. Together we created a farm, barn and barnyard and a pig pen. We read stories like " Duck on a Bike" and other farm animal books. We also explored under the sea creating Jellyfish, Starfish, crabs, rainbow fish and whales. The art projects for these animals helped us learn about each animal by using soft fluffy cotton balls on the outside of the sheep, feathers glued to ducks, and jellyfish with long flowing arms. We love our animals!

We also had fun exploring the nature areas around the school including a new discovery of a stream. The children love to pretend to fish and catch things. We found an injured butterfly that Teacher Carolyn gently held in her hand for everyone to see. It was such a wonderful opportunity to see nature up close. The children also like hunting and stomping on mushrooms while running in the field. Puddles have also been very popular and we are doing our best to let your kids be kids while trying to keep them dry and comfortable.

In Spanish class we talked about the Spanish names of Farm animals and got to play with a lot of toy animals. The children really picked up the new words quickly. They are also getting to know the counting and other vocabulary songs we are singing -Mui Bueno!

We also learned another group of Sign Language Sign for animals such as horse, cow, sheep, pig, duck, fish, cat, dog, and even the sign for STARFISH. The children really concentrate to move their fingers the way they want and take such pride in their completion of the task.

At our sensory discovery tables, we went hunting for sea shells in sand, fishing for fish in our pond, squished our fingers in playdough, shaving cream, and lotion. Our circle time brought some new favorite songs, Fish Alive and 5 Cranky Crabs. Ask your children to sing them to you.

Valentines Day also brought fun crafts, yummy foods, and good friends. We used a very loud blender to make strawberry smoothies for our kids and had a lot of fun. We talked about friendship and gentle touches. The children made fantastic bags to collect all their valentines and we did every heart art project you can think of. Thank you to all the parents who made treats, homemade valentines and brought in goodies for our Starfish!

Cece and Carolyn

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