

Kindergarten Chronicles

October 5, 2018

Our kindergartners had a very busy week! This week, all three of the kindergarten classes worked with Mr. Kleinman to complete "Worry Workshop". Each morning, the kindergartners worked on learning about their worries, how their worries affect their bodies, and lastly, how they could help ease and calm their worries. On Thursday, the kindergartners made worry traps out of envelopes. All of the children drew different pictures of the things that they worried about and then placed them inside of their worry traps so that they would not worry about them anymore! We want to extend a huge thank you to Mr. Kleinman for leading this informative workshop!

On Tuesday, we had Mother Goose make a special appearance at our school! As always, she was fabulous, sharing with the children classic Nursery Rhymes such as Little Miss Muffet, Little Boy Blue, and Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary. She mesmerized the children with her costume, her accent, and her expressions. She never broke character, and encouraged even the most reluctant students to participate and act out the rhymes with her. We also recited other nursery rhymes together in class.

On Friday, we had our Highlands Walkathon! The children were so excited to walk around the walking path! They were cheered on by so many of their friends! Thank you so much to all of the families who helped fundraise money for our school!

This was our fourth full week of Reader's Workshop. This week, the children focused on reading "Old Favorite Storybooks". The children reread some of their favorites: The Carrot Seed, The Three Billy Goats Gruff, Mrs. Wishy Washy, etc. During our Reader's Workshop time, the children worked on making the words they "read" match the pictures in their books. They also worked on using the exact words that the characters say. Please encourage your child to practice reading at home!

In Foundations, we worked on lowercase letters **i** and **u**. The children continued the routine of saying the letter, picture, sound for all letters but focusing on the **i** and **u** sound. They practiced making these letters in their notebooks and white boards. We also talked about the difference between consonants and vowels. Our new sight words this week are: **a** and **to**.

In math we started Unit 2, "Comparing Quantities, Comparing Lengths". At the beginning of the week we read Anno's Counting Book and talked about the importance of counting, and why we need to know how to count. As we read this

book, the children were able to follow the structure of the story, and identify all the objects on page 1, page 2, page 3, etc. After reading this book, the children made their own counting books upto 6. They enjoyed making their counting books and came up with many different illustrations to support each page of their book! Later in the week we learned a new game called "Grab and Count". In order to play this game, the children reached into a bin of cubes, pulled out one handful of cubes, and then counted how many they grabbed. After counting how many cubes they grabbed, they recorded that number on their worksheet and drew the correct number of cubes. You may want to try this at home with a bin of crayons, markers, etc!

In science, we continued to dive deeper into our three different units. Mrs. Nestle's class continued to observe and record the weather outside. The children learned to record the type of weather, and temperature outside, as well as draw an accurate picture that matched their observations. Mrs. Sisson's class observed animals and living things surrounding our school. They also learned that animals need to eat food in order to live. Ms. Kline's class continued to learn about motion by pushing and pulling with different objects and noticing how they move. They also started to design their very own pinball machine!

As always, we wish for you a wonderful weekend with your family! Hopefully the weather will cooperate and we will have sunshine and crisp fall days for the long weekend!

The Kindergarten Team

High Frequency Words:

I, can, the, a, to

Updates and Reminders:

- We will not have school on...
 - Monday, October 8th (Columbus Day).
- When you drop off your child to school in the morning, we ask that parents not stay out back until 8:15. We are hoping to make all kindergarteners more comfortable with their transition into school in the morning.
- Don't forget that the school calendar as well as other important information can be found on the school website: danverspublicschools.org/Highlands