

Dear Parents,

Highlights from this week to discuss with your child:

1. Thanks to Luke and his family for letting their albino guinea pig visit our classroom this week. So far our visitors include: guinea pig, albino guinea pig, hamster, toad, bearded lizard, red-bellied snake, spider, praying mantas, daddy long leg, centipede, millipede, cricket, grasshoppers, cicadas, worms, ladybug, earwig, and our mealworms which we are still waiting to transform into pupas. This is building a solid foundation for the understanding of scientific classification of animals. We compare insect to insect, insect to arachnid, amphibian to reptile, mammal to mammal, etc... Ask your child which class pet he/she enjoyed the most and then ask for 3 reasons supporting their decision.

2. We reviewed odd and even numbers during Ramps and Pathways. Is it easier to build something with an odd number of blocks or an even number of blocks? Take turns trying to name the largest odd number. (even number) Do you have an odd number of people in your family or an even number of people? If your family wanted to play basketball how many would be on each team?

3. We added original actions to an old time favorite. Have fun at home making up your own actions with your child.

*Five little pumpkins sitting on a gate,*

*The first one said, "Oh my, it's getting late."*

*The second one said, "Let's have some fun."*

*The third one said, "Let's run and run and run."*

*The fourth one said, "There are voices in the air."*

*The fifth one said, "Let's get out of here!"*

*Then swish went the wind and OUT went the lights.*

*And the five little pumpkins rolled out of sight.*

Next week will change some words to the poem to create parodies. Get ready for some fun!

4. Take a trip with your child to the hall by our bathrooms to check out our bar graph. Have your child explain the data to you. The word “bar graph” is a new vocabulary word so if you hear someone talking about the “thing” by the bathroom it may be the bar graph. Ask EVERY night how our bar graph has changed. Ask: “Do you think everyone in school has filled in the bar graph yet? Why or why not?” “Do you think the data on the bar graph will match exactly with the number of costumes worn on Halloween?” “How can we change the bar graph to make it better for next year?” “If three people change their costumes, how would it affect the graph?”

It is a little early to start talking about snow days but better safe than sorry. If school is cancelled you will receive an e-mail from the office and then another e-mail from me. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT SOMEONE IN YOUR FAMILY REPLY TO MY E-MAIL. I will continue to e-mail, text, call, and wake you up until I get notification that you have received the message and will be staying home safe and sound. Please reply to this e-mail with a “Got it” or with questions so that we will be ready. Thanks

Your partner in education, Mrs. Teresa Pape