

Happy Tuesday!

Highlights: This morning started off quite busy, especially at our classroom library. While getting ready for morning meeting, a couple of us realized that our books were all over the place and we couldn't find the book we wanted to read. Someone said, "Ms. Anna, I think the pigeon came and messed up all of our books last night!" I love that if anything is out of place or missing, the pigeon from the Mo Willems books is to always to



blame. Someone else then had the idea that we need to organize all of our books so it's easier to find what we want, when we want. Your children took turns discussing their ideas with each other. Here's a snippet:

Student 1: "Take the books out and just put where they belong."

Student 2: "But where?"

Student 3: "Take them all out and put them where we want them to go!"

Student 4: "How about we just break into 2 or 3 people and then we can agree what shelf to put each in? So everyone decides one section since we have 10 kids and 8 sections!"

Student 5: "Yea but Jasiu isn't here."

Student 6: "Yea, and we're using one of the sections for something else!"

After a pretty lengthy discussion and everyone's thoughts were shared, they voted that the first section would be only dinosaur fiction, followed by dinosaur non-fiction, paperback fiction, paperback nonfiction, weather books, board books and hardcover, and magazines/newspapers. Pretty successful morning parents!

We can't get enough dinosaurs! We are so eager to learn more about the megalosaurus, brontosaurus, iguanodon, and more that we have come up with an idea to do some research on a dino that interests us more and then share our findings later this week. So far, we are looking for the height and weight of our chosen dinosaur after a debate about how the tyrannosaurus rex weighed less than a bronchiosaurus, yet was the most powerful. Ask your child what dinosaur they want to learn more about!

Have a wonderful evening and don't forget to play Matific before it ends tomorrow! Plato is in the TOP TEN OF THE NATION! WOOOOO!!!!!!

Happy last day of the month!

Highlights: Last Saturday, I went to a symposium and was able to snag some really cool stuff for our classroom. Score! I brought them in to share with the class and they were a HUGE hit! I first showed them a fossil from a 150 million year old dinosaur bone, but before telling them what it was I asked them what they thought it could be. Some responses were a brick, chocolate, rock, stone, bark, dried paint, wood, and a crystal. I also brought some shark and string-ray teeth that were alive during the same time as dinosaurs and they guessed they could be from a mammoth, people, dinosaurs, lions, bears, monkeys, and tigers. Most of them were long and sharp, but one was short and flat. When I asked the class to tell me what they think these animals ate, I was really impressed to hear them say all the sharp teeth were for meat because they're carnivores and the flat one was for a herbivore. This then led to a discussion about what plants would an animal that lives in the sea eat though?! Turns out, not too many, but instead, they eat the soft foods such as sea worms, shrimp, and clams.

Ms. Stephanie came to visit us again today! It's always a fun time when she's around. She read us a couple books that really got the kids involved, we sang, we danced, we jumped, and had fun!

Have a super rest of your day and tonight is the last night of Matific-let's do this!

KALO MINA-TO A GOOD MONTH!!

Hard to believe it's already MARCH! Conferences are just around the corner-don't forget to sign up today if you need a specific time. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0f49aaa928a5fe3-conferences3>

Highlights: I have a feeling your child will be going to sleep pretty fast tonight after the day we had! After reading the book One Day In The Eucalyptus, Eucalyptus Tree this morning, I just so happened to have some eucalyptus oil for them to smell. They were pretty excited to smell a tree! We talked about how different trees are used for different things, have different smells, feels, leaves, etc. The interesting thing was we spent more time discussing the uniqueness of a eucalyptus tree than talking about the story itself! I think they just really liked saying eucalyptus. We learned that there are over 700 species of eucalyptus! This then led us into a discussion about what our tree is used for and what are some other things we make from trees. A few of us went on a little scavenger hunt throughout the classroom looking for things we believed are made from trees. So far we have found paper, rulers, our kitchen furniture, colored pencils and regular pencils, our library shelves and books, my desk, and the apples we sometimes have at lunch!

Afterwards, we spent the entire remainder of our morning researching our chosen dinosaurs. Some worked solo, while others paired up. Our top dinos are tyrannosaurus rex, ankylosaurus, triceratops, corythosaurus, brachiosaurus, stegosaurus, and iguanodon. We are looking for the height and weight of our dinosaurs with the help of some key words such as: tall, short, length, inches, feet, pounds, lbs., and tons. We then started making our dinosaurs using clay!

We had SO MUCH FUN dancing and being silly with the help of one of my favorite musicians (and authors and child development specialists), Jim Gill! His music play keeps us engaged, strengthens fine and gross motor skills, keeps us attentively listening for the next move, instruction, etc., builds upon math and literacy skills, and so much more. Check him out here to get a better idea: <http://www.jimgill.com/>

Our Thursday special is music with Mr. Oleg:)

It was warm enough to go to the park for our full recess time (and sunny, yay!), but it's not quite spring yet:/ Please make sure your child has the appropriate clothing to be outside because it can still get pretty chilly!

Happy Friday and start to your weekend everybody!

Highlights: To get us going this morning, we read the book Say Zoop! by Herve Tullet. He is the same author as Press Here so if you're familiar with that, then you know how our story went this morning! Books like this are my favorite because they keep everyone engaged and focused, guessing, moving, reading, playing, and just makes reading FUN! Afterwards, we finished up our dinosaur chart, created our replica dinos, journaled and then began an AWESOME PBS documentary on the newest dinosaur discovery that isn't in any of our books (it's THAT new)! We learned about the largest ever known dinosaur, the titanosaur, and then discussed & wrote down how the tyrannosaurus rex compares and contrasts. I highly recommend watching this (*Nature: Raising the Dinosaur Giant*-you can find it on Netflix or Amazon Prime video).

Our Friday specials are gym with Coach Matt and Spanish with Senora Soraya. After a gorgeous day at the park, we returned to count our cash, write our deposit slips, head on over to the bank, and finally end the day with the second half of the documentary