

Another excellent start to a new week! Happy Monday Parents:)

Highlights: We know about books with no pictures, but have you guys ever read any books without words?! This morning, we read the book Museum Trip by Barbara Lehman and made up our own story by just looking at the pictures! We were getting super creative and having fun being silly, serious, and adding sound effects. Try this at home and get that creativity and excitement going! Afterwards, a few of us spent some time making our own puppets to use for our own stories. I want to continue this with your help. If you could please send either one or two old socks tomorrow, we will hopefully be able to create some characters this week.

Matific may have ended last week, but we have some serious math fever in room 5. Some of us decided to create our own math olympics with our math games, but they are also writing their own math problems to give each other! We ran out of time today, but they asked me if we could play math games all day tomorrow-I'm pretty excited to see what they come up with and share with you all tomorrow:)

We also made some dinosaur boogers (aka slime). There was a lot of "ewww", and "coool", followed by "hey, my boogers aren't this hot", "mine aren't this sticky". We used hot water, green food coloring, white glue, and starch. I used to use borax, however, it's been found to cause a reaction on children's hands so if you find a recipe that calls for borax, just substitute liquid starch instead!

Don't forget to sign-up for conferences. Have a great rest of your evening and stay warm-it's getting windy and cold out there again!

Tuesday:

Highlights: Another book with no words to start off our day today! Rainstorm is also written by Barbara Lehman and shows a boy stuck inside his home on a rainy day, but then ends up in a lighthouse. Here's a short article detailing the benefits to reading wordless books and a list of some you can read at home, too!
<https://nerdybookclub.wordpress.com/2013/03/30/top-ten-wordless-picture-books-by-kristen-remenar/>

After our morning meeting, we took a little trip to the library and checked out a couple more dinosaur books. While there, we read our first chapter from our new chapter book part of the Magic School Bus series, Dinosaur Detectives. When we returned to school we drew our detailed illustrations and wrote a short sentence summarizing the first chapter. Our morning concluded with snack, math games, ramps & pathways, and our Tuesday special: Greek.

We usually have recess immediately following lunch, but it was rainy and slippery out front so why not swap indoor recess for a classic dinosaur movie like "The Land Before Time"?! They loved this animated dino tale and I loved listening to them discuss with each other what each dinosaur was! There was a little debate about if Spike is a stegosaurus or ankylosaurus, until someone pointed out that he can't be an ankylosaurus because he doesn't have "knight armor or shields" and that's what they're known for!

Have a great rest of your Tuesday and if you haven't signed up for conferences yet, please do so at your earliest convenience. See you tomorrow:)

Happy Wednesday to you all!

Rather than me reading a book to the class this morning, we reversed roles and they read a book to me! They read Go Away, Dog by Joan L. Nodset and then it was my turn to read chapter two of Dinosaur Detectives to them. Carlos and Ralphie were messing around with the buttons on Ms. Frizzle's laptop when Carlos pressed an icon that said "t-travel", uh oh! After a mini freak out, Ms. Frizzle smiled and informed the class that they would be traveling back in time to visit some dinosaurs!

We built some pterodactyls and flew them down our hallways and outside. First we made some predictions as to how far they would go and then it was time to fly! We discussed what factors cause different results and then tweaked our procedure as much as we could. They don't realize it, but they're using the scientific method! We recorded our findings and the most interesting thing we found was that the tail that ripped off of someone's pterodactyl, actually went further than the rest of them that had their tails intact. "Maybe that's because it's not as heavy so it doesn't fall down faster", "it went more straight", "it went really far, but not high" were some thoughts I heard. This pterodactyl went a whole two yards and 21 inches which we converted to 7 feet 9 inches.

Our morning challenge was quite a challenge indeed! I asked the class if they could pull apart two rubber hemispheres to demonstrate the enormous strength of atmospheric pressure. We tried solo, we tried tug of war, but nothing could pull these apart! We quickly realized that when you twist the two hemispheres rather than pull, you are able to separate them. Tomorrow we will experiment with straws and sucking water out from an open cup and then trying the same thing with a closed top. I wonder what will happen!

Hello Room 5 Parents and happy Thursday!

Highlights: What a day! Ralphie, Ms. Frizzle, Carlos, and the rest of the class came into contact with a Palaeosaurus! They found some fossils that looked to be teeth and started comparing Ralphie's when they noticed that Ralphie's is actually a tooth that belonged to plant-eater. We were also able to make comparisons to the fossil teeth we have and remembered that carnivores were identified by their sharp teeth and herbivores had more straight, even grooved teeth! After completing our illustrations and our morning challenge, some of us started journaling our own stories. Please send one of two old socks so we can bring our characters to life through puppets tomorrow. Not everyone was at school today so we did not do our straw experiment, but hopefully we can tomorrow. Stay healthy everyone! We did get to go to the park for a little-please remember to send your child with appropriate winter weather gear such as hats, gloves, scarves, earmuffs, etc. to stay warm. Our special today was music and we had so much fun making up our own versions of shark & minnows during open gym:)

Don't forget tomorrow is bank deposit day!

Have an awesome rest of your evening and have a great Friday tomorrow:~)

TGIF Parents!

Highlights: Ms. Frizzle's pet lizard Liz almost got Ralphie and his classmates into some big trouble today! When they landed at a new spot, she ran out and Ralphie ran after her only to be confronted by a coelophysis. We learned that coelophysis were a small, more slender dinosaur that weighed about as much as us (well, not me), but they had very sharp teeth that they even used to eat smaller of their kind. Ralphie, Liz, Ms. Frizzle and the class barely made it back to the bus! We left off with them traveling to the Jurassic period.

During free play this morning, someone asked me if they could try the building activity with the marshmallows and toothpicks again. They told me that now they learned if they make a stronger base, they could build a higher tower. This got everybody interested and we spent some time on our towers including the "slippy tower", the "Eiffel tower", and the "always collapses tower". Afterwards, we did a fun chemistry experiment to demonstrate how polymers work (our marshmallows and toothpicks helped to better understand this). Ask them what happened to the water in the bag when we poked pencils through!

After our specials (gym with Coach Matt and Spanish with Senora Soraya), we had lunch and went to the park for our full recess time, yay! We ended the day writing our deposit slips and walking over to the bank, then journaling our stories that we now remember need characters, a setting, plot, a conflict, and a resolution. We didn't quite finish again, so we didn't start our puppets, but that's OK! We now have our dinosaur eggs, puppets, and a play to look forward to for Monday! Try journaling a story with your child this weekend:)

Have a super great weekend everybody!

-Ms. Anna