

## Ms. Dionysia's Classroom Connection

Here are some of the activities/projects the children were engaged in this week:

### A Peek at the Week

- Des Plaines Historical Center- On Thursday, a representative from the Des Plaines Historical center visited our school for another in house exploration trip. The children were able to explore some old-fashioned kitchen equipment and used a coffee grinder and a butter churner. Have your ever wondered how butter is made? The students were involved in making butter! Some key concepts introduced and reinforced were chemistry, fat and heat. In addition, students were asked to brainstorm about their daily schedules and think about what they do on a regular basis. Then have them think about how it might be like to do these activities with no electricity, modern roads and stores, or indoor plumbing! Lastly, in cooperative groups the students played a Illinois timeline game!
- Dynamath-This week the student read an article titled Garbage Gobbler. The students read and learned that Maryland's Baltimore Harbor used to have a trash problem. But not anymore! Three googly-eyed machines that spin in the water's current scoop up trash before it can flow into the ocean. The devices even have names: Mr. Trash Wheel, Professor Trash Wheel, and Captain Trash Wheel. After reading the article the students answered word problems that analyzed data and also created a bar graph to display data.
- Super Science-This week the students read an article titled Giant Dino that connected Earth Science. The students read and learned about a gargantuan new resident at the Field Museum in Chicago. Maximo, the Titanosaur - the largest dinosaur ever found! Scientist believe the living animal weighed as much as 10 African Elephants! The students analyzed a graph that measured Maximo's thighbone to an average adult human!

### Mindset Mathematics-

- How flexible is a number? In this activity, the students extended their work with number visuals and focused on the importance of factors for making numbers useful and flexible. This week the class made a display of flexible or inflexible numbers and explained why they think these numbers are, using evidence about each number.

### The Matchstick Castle/Illinois Exploration

- Illinois State-The students continued their collaborative group project of decorating our classroom door with a poster size map of Illinois, the state flower, state bird and state flag.
- The Matchstick Castle-In their book talk groups, students discussed the vocabulary words, characters and wrote discussion questions. This week they played vocabulary charades too!
- Illinois Castle Research-Did you know that Illinois is home to 7 different castles? This week the students had the opportunity to research some of these interesting castles! Please make sure to ask your child where their favorite one is located!!



### News/Reminders

10/24 Early Dismissal 1:30 pm

10/31 Halloween-Early Dismissal 1:30 pm

11/8 Curriculum Chat 7:00 pm

