

Dear Parents,

This week our **GIANT PEACH** landed in the **BIG APPLE**...right on top of the Empire State Building's antenna! We took a virtual tour of the famous skyscraper and saw beautiful views from the Observation Deck on the 86th floor. The kids asked if we could take a field trip to New York City (or NYC, as they like to say) so we could go to see it in person, but I think I'll have to add that to our Wish List for now!

We learned a new math game called Tapatan. Tapatan is a two-player abstract strategy game originally from the Philippines and is very similar to Tic Tac Toe. One of our other math challenges was to see how many triangles we could make using 9 popsicle sticks. It seemed simple at first, but we were surprised by what happened when we rearranged the sticks and made the triangles "connect".

We read "The Yellow House: Vincent van Gogh and Paul Gauguin Side by Side" by Susan Goldman Rubin. The book introduced us to van Gogh's painting Bedroom in Arles, which is actually one of three similar paintings that are also known as The Bedroom. The second version, which was painted in 1889, is at the Art Institute of Chicago. (Hopefully we will get to see it in person someday soon!)

Every time we go to the library we wonder what happens to our books after we put them in the Book Return. Well, now we know! We took a "behind the scenes" tour and saw the conveyor belt and sorting system in action! (Check out the Plato website to see a video!) We also learned that there are 333,242 total items that are able to be checked out of the Des Plaines Public Library...15,895 of them being picture books!

Did you ever do Mad Libs when you were a child? Mad Libs are a word game where players are prompted to come up with a list of words (different parts of speech) to substitute for blanks in a story, without knowing what the story is about. The stories are usually goofy and silly, there aren't winners or losers, we are required to brainstorm as a group...and, of course, we laugh hysterically when we read them!

Room 4's Autumn Adventures Mad Lib

It's a **happy** fall day, the sky is **black**, and we're going to the **cucumber** patch! They have **artist** rides there where you can **laugh** your own **broccoli**. There's also a **sad skyscraper** where scary **mummies** jump out to try to and scare you.

I like **running** my way through the **carrot** maze, where the **girls** are taller than the adults. When we're done, we will exercise some hot **lemonade** and enjoy a **mad** slice of **peach pencil**.

Notes:

- Be sure to read the Parent Notes that you receive from the office. There are many important dates coming up, including two field trips.
- Please be sure to label all sweaters, sweatshirts, coats, gloves, scarves, etc. with your child's name or initials.
- Remember to periodically check out our Classroom Page on the Plato website to see pictures of our most recent shenanigans. ;o)

Wish List:

- A class trip to NYC to tour the Empire State Building. ;o)

As always, please feel free to call, email, or text me with any questions or concerns.

Have a great weekend!

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