

May 12, 2019

Dear Parents,

I hope you had a great week and weekend! Please see below for a few notes of what we did last week.

- On Tuesday we built obstacle courses for little bear figurines in our classroom (or some of us built the obstacle courses for other things). With our written directions, we practiced literacy, building, and cooperation within our groups. I was very impressed with the level of focus and creativity from the class. What started as a morning challenge became a full day project! How cool!



- Throughout the week we have been completing a top secret science experiment! Last week we read a Scholastic article about colorful eucalyptus trees, purple carrots, and dyed flowers. We wanted to create some of our own colorful flowers as well and who better to give them to than our loving mothers? :) The colors were picked out with our moms' favorite colors in mind. Also throughout this week (and last week too!), we have been creating abstract string art. I won't steal their story, but be sure to **ask your child how they created their artwork!** It took multiple days and varying strategies to create their beautiful pieces to take home. We hope all of our moms had a wonderful mother's day!



- On Thursday we met our pen pals! We had such a great day! We started the morning with a nature scavenger hunt and we made a snack over the bonfire. We hiked the school grounds (including wood chip piles, a pond, and a creek) and ended at the school's playground. This playground was unique in that there was no equipment. Pen pal pairs added to the wooden huts created by other students and played tag after finishing their picnic lunch together. To end the day, we hiked back and made s'mores. I know our students appreciate the support from the popcorn sale that made this amazing trip possible! We are looking forward to writing back to our pen pals over the next couple of weeks and thanking them for hosting us. (PS sorry for the many loads of laundry necessary from our adventure!)







- Last week our caterpillars were delivered to the classroom. This week we have watched them grow, become very active, and then form chrysalides. We have been documenting our observations and cannot wait to see what else they will do this week! Stay tuned!
- France building updates! As we are wrapping up our study of France and completing our buildings, we will be starting our next story this week. With only a few weeks left of the school year, we will use this time to start digging into our new unit and prepare for our summer reading.