



Mountain Lion Cub News - March



Spring is Here!

Spring is a time for growing and celebrating. Miss Amber and Miss Melissa's preschoolers celebrated the start of spring with by making some "springy" headbands and planting in our dramatic play outdoor flower garden. They also began planting in our new outdoor butterfly garden! During the month of March the students also participated in a fun unit in which they learned all about Earth, renewable energy, pollution, and recycling. They engaged in fun activities such



St. Patrick's Day Tricky Traps

As a fun way to incorporate critical thinking skills into their learning, Miss Jylian and Miss Michaela's students built "Leprechaun Traps". Although Leprechauns are fictional, the student's cleverness in building traps that could catch one of these tricky little guys was very real! They used teamwork and ingenuity to design and create their traps with a variety of materials of their choosing. This month the Pre-K students also celebrated Read Across America

as music and movement, math patterning activities, an I Spy game, and more to enhance their learning.

by exploring a wide variety of books and authors and participating in many fun writing and craft activities related to these wonderful books.



Spotlight on Development - Visual Arts

It's a given that art is important for all children, starting at the earliest age. Early on, it's about the tactile feeling of creating art – the fingers in the paint, the hands on the paper. Soon, it becomes about a means of expression, how children can get their feelings and their ideas out in a visual sense. It's about self-esteem, as children create works they are proud of and can share with others. All of these are such important gifts that art bestows upon our children, but they are not the entirety of what art gives to preschoolers. Art can make substantial impact on learning outcomes. From a learning perspective, art influences cognition and creative thinking. At a preschool age, art can have a direct influence on literacy, math and science.

How can parents help?

1. Focus on the process, not the product. Encouraging your child in the action of unstructured art helps them work with intrinsic motivation. It teaches them to express themselves freely, without worrying about what others think.

2. Provide choices. Gather a wide range of materials for your child to use like paint, colored pencils, chalk, play dough, markers, crayons, oil pastels, scissors and stamps. Mix it up by bringing in unexpected materials like Q-tips, dinosaurs, dry pasta or beans.
 3. Keep it open-ended. Instead of sitting down with a specific plan or outcome in mind, let your child explore, experiment and use their imaginations.
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Pyramid Model Behavior Support For Families

When young children have big feelings, they can sometimes be hard for them to regulate. At school, if a child has trouble returning to a calm state after becoming very upset, our teachers share strategies with the child that can help them to calm themselves. These simple and effective strategies work just as well at home. Click on the link below to see a great resource with strategies that you can encourage your child to use at home to help them learn



Lighting the Way for Parents

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths."

Proverbs 3:5-6

to regulate their own emotions.

http://challengingbehavior.org/docs/Calm-Down_Poster_EN.pdf