



Tiger's Kindergarten December 2017 Newsletter



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After School Program Teacher: Lynne Maguire



Thanksgiving Feast

We had a wonderful lunchtime feast to celebrate Thanksgiving. The Tigers truly enjoyed working together to set up the classroom for the feast. I was proud of their ability to work together as a team. They also loved dressing up as Pilgrims and Native Americans for the feast. The children thoroughly enjoyed sharing this experience with their peers and a few of our parents as well.

A great big THANK YOU goes out to everyone who brought something in for our feast. The children had quite the selection to choose from. Our feast included turkey, mashed potatoes, carrots, stuffing, gravy, popcorn, milk, and apple cider. For dessert, the children enjoyed a Thanksgiving cupcake. I would like to give a special thanks to Anna Leung and Yongjie Yan. Your assistance helped to make our Thanksgiving Feast a true success! Thank you so much for all of your support!



December 4th:
Happy 6th Birthday,
Lilianah!



December 9th:
Happy 5th Birthday,
Addison!



Important Dates

Tuesday, December 12 th	Hanukkah begins
Wednesday, December 20 th	Hanukkah ends.
Friday, December 22 nd	Holiday Celebration: We will be having our holiday party on this day. If you are interested in bringing in any goodies, there will be a sign-up sheet on the classroom door.
Monday, December 25 th	Christmas Day. The center will be closed.
Tuesday, December 26 th	Day after Christmas: The center will be closed.
Tuesday, December 26 th	Kwanzaa begins
Friday, December 29 th	Pajama and Movie Day! Come to school in your PJ's and enjoy a New Year Movie!
Sunday, December 31 st	New Year's Eve. Have a safe and happy holiday! Happy New Year, 2018!

Monday, January 1st

New Year's Day. The center will be closed.



Reminder...

Brrrr... The colder weather is upon us! Please check your child's cubby to make sure he/she has warm spare clothing (pants/sweatpants, long sleeve shirts, sweatshirts, underwear, and socks). Also, we continue to use the playground in the cold weather. Please make sure your child wears a warm winter jacket, hat/earmuffs, mittens/gloves, and boots (as needed). This is to make sure everyone enjoys our outside time and nobody gets sick.



Evaluations

Your child's six month evaluation should be ready by the end of this month. Please take your time to read it over. There will be a sign-up sheet on the classroom door to meet with me for parent teacher conferences if you are interested. If you have any questions about the evaluation, please bring them up during the meeting. The meetings will most likely be scheduled for after the holiday season.

Classroom Wish List

Gently used housekeeping toys (i.e. play food, plastic dishes, baby bottles, dolls, stuffed animals, dress up clothes and accessories, etc.)

Spare Clothing: boys and girls pants, shirts, underwear, socks, etc.

Batteries (i.e. A, AA, C, and D)

Glue Sticks

Scotch Tape

Pens

Plastic Shopping Bags

Sandwich Bags

Liquid Starch

Elastics

Paper Clips

Headphones

Staples

Masking Tape

Large Envelopes

Dry Erase Markers

Freezer Bags

Stickers

Sticky note pads

Construction paper

Old Educational CD-ROM's

December Curriculum

Language

- Practicing writing first and last names using a capital followed by lowercase letters
- Identify last names of peers
- Review letters Pp, Bb, Tt, Dd, Ff, Vv, Kk, and Gg.
- Introduce letters Qq, Th, Aa, and Oo.
- Introducing and identifying naming words for the following:
 - Animals and Animal Homes
 - Animal Babies
 - Places
- Encouraging the concept of phonetic spelling to write a Holiday Wish List. (Phonetic spelling is the concept of sounding out a word and writing down the letters heard. The spelling may not be correct but the letter knowledge will be displayed.)
- Introducing the concept of making a noun plural by adding the letter "s"

Language Standards Covered:

MA 3. *Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to narrate a single event or several loosely linked events, tell about the events in the order in which they occurred, and provide a reaction to what happened.*

MA 3. Ask and answer questions in order to seek help, get information, or clarify something that is not understood

MA 4. *Describe familiar people, places, things, and events and, with prompting and support, provide additional detail.*

Reading

- Continuing the process of breaking down words into individual letter sounds to sound out a word.
- Using picture cues to assist in sounding out a word.
- Reviewing the following parts of a story: Beginning, Middle, and End
- Guided reading groups with the following Take Home Books: "I Have a Friend", "Pig's Party", "The Family Farm", and "Zoo"
- Introducing the concept of fiction and non-fiction books
- Introduce the story concepts of characters and setting
- Have a mock "Pet Show": create a pet, labels, and information cards
- Introduce the concept of syllables
- Introduce the concept of sound words
- Increase awareness of environmental print
- Review concept of text patterns

- Introduce the concept of acting out a story line using the song, "Bought Me a Cat"

Reading Standards Covered:

MA 2. *Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes).*

- Distinguish long from short vowel sounds in spoken single-syllable words.*
- Orally produce single-syllable words by blending sounds (phonemes), including consonant blends.*
- Isolate and pronounce initial, medial vowel, and final sounds (phonemes) in spoken single-syllable words.*
- Segment spoken single-syllable words into their complete sequence of individual sounds (phonemes).*

MA 10. *Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.*

MA 3. *With prompting and support, identify characters, settings, and major events in a story.*

Math

- Exploring the concepts of left and right
- Apply the concepts of left and right by making a path in the classroom and drawing items on the left and right of the path
- Paths and Patterns Review Book
- Introducing more, less, and equal
- Introducing the concept of one more
- I Can Count Review Book
- Skip counting by 2's, 5's, and 10's using manipulatives

Math Standards Covered:

Know number names and the count sequence.

MA 1. *Count to 100 by ones and by tens.*

Count to tell the number of objects.

MA 4. *Understand the relationship between numbers and quantities; connect counting to cardinality.*

- When counting objects, say the number names in the standard order, pairing each object with one and only one number name and each number name with one and only one object.*
- Understand that the last number name said tells the number of objects counted. The number of objects is the same regardless of their arrangement or the order in which they were counted.*
- Understand that each successive number name refers to a quantity that is one larger*

MA 6. *Identify whether the number of objects in one group is greater than, less than, or equal to the number of objects in another group, e.g., by using matching and counting strategies*

Science

- Air Is All Around Us: What is air? How can we manipulate it? What fills a balloon? What makes a paper airplane fly? Feather races, bubble experiments, musical instruments, etc.

- How can we keep track of the weather? Recording the weather and looking for a pattern
- What is winter? How should we dress? Compare light and heavy clothing
- How does water change? Snow and ice experiments

Science Standards Covered:

K-ESS2-1. Use and share quantitative observations of local weather conditions to describe patterns over time.

K-ESS3-2. Obtain and use information about weather forecasting to prepare for, and respond to, different types of local weather.

K-PS1-1(MA). Investigate and communicate the idea that different kinds of materials can be solid or liquid depending on temperature.

Social Studies

- How do different cultures celebrate the holidays?
- Exploring Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa
- Exploring holiday traditions in Germany, Spain, Sweden, Yugoslavia, Japan, and China
- How do we celebrate the New Year, 2018?

Social Studies Standards Covered:

MA 2. Use correctly words and phrases related to chronology and time (now, long ago, before, after; morning, afternoon, night; today, tomorrow, yesterday; last or next week, month, year; and present, past, and future tenses of verbs). (H)

MA 5. Tell or show what a map is and what a globe is. (G)

PreK-K.1 Identify and describe the events or people celebrated during United States national holidays and why we celebrate them. (H)

PreK-K.2 Put events in their own and their families' lives in temporal order. (H)