



# Kindergarten News

December 9, 2011

Dear Parents,

Thank you to the parent volunteers who helped make the Dupage Children's Museum fieldtrip a success. The kids were so excited and well behaved!

**Here is a peek at what we've been up to:**

- The word families over the past 2 weeks were \_an and \_ot. We made words and wrote simple sentences using our sight words and words in these families. They are getting more comfortable with writing sentences. Next week we will work with the \_en family.
- The new sight words we worked with were "blue" "red", "where", "come", "jump", "here" "help" and "away". Thank you for reinforcing work with sight words at home. The kids are very excited about knowing them and recognizing them in print.
- We completed our Science unit on Matter. Over the past 2 weeks we have learned about properties and physical states of matter. The kids were engaged as we watched short clips, played games and participated in hands on experiments.
- Much of our math went hand in hand with Science working with shape and size. We also continue to practice counting to 100 and counting by 5's. We worked with number lines and will work with graphing next week.
- Our poems included the *Shape Song* and *Snow Ball*. The children are thinking about (visualizing) the poem and making connections as well as working with concepts of print.
- We continue with our literacy centers which enhance and are an extension of the work that is directly taught in class.

**A note of concern...**

Several weeks ago I got a class set of mini magnifying glasses for the kids to use during their big book reading and other reading centers to aid in searching for sight words or other words they can pick out in print. I started with a class set of 22 and now have 8. I have spoken with the class on the importance of putting things back where they found them and that materials used in the classroom are the property of the classroom. I gave the opportunity to return any back to the box, but I have received none and it has been nearly 2 weeks. I have scoured the room along with the help of the students and they are no where to be found. Will you please work with me to stress again the importance of returning things back to their correct places and not taking things that don't belong to us? The students are no longer able to use the remaining magnifying glasses as I have taken them away. It is a disservice as it is a great tool. I've waited a while to bring this up as I was hoping they would show up. Thank you for your help in dealing with this delicate situation.

~over please~

**Notes:**

- I have 5 extra Dupage Children's Museum passes (free adult admission with a paid child admission). If you are interested, please let me know.
- Now that the weather is getting colder, please note that your child will not be going outside during the school day.

**Upcoming Dates:**

- Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> – Winter Parties – a.m. 10:00 and p.m. 2:00.
- Wednesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> – Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> – No School – Winter Break (classes resume Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>.)

**Reminders:**

- If your child will be going home a different way than normal, please continue to send a note.
- Tuesday we have P.E. (Gym) – please remember to send your child in gym shoes.
- Thursday is Library day; all books need to be returned by Thursday.

Have a great weekend!

Tonia Cyrus