



SJSU Child Development Lab Preschool Newsletter

April/May 2011

Note the Following Dates:

May 10
Family Potluck 11am-1:30pm
(no PM Session)

May 11, 12, & 16
Parent Conferences

June 8- July 6
Summer Session

Outside play

by Robin Nelson (T/Th P.M.)

Outside play is an essential component to a child's overall development. Outside a child has the space and freedom to run, kick, climb, throw, jump, and catch. While performing these physical movements gross motor development occurs. Gross motor development strengthens the child's ability to participate successfully in group activities and games. This is important because all children want to feel competent and successful in their interaction with each other.

What are they learning?

Additionally, while playing outside together, children learn social skills in terms of

- negotiating rules of a game
- taking turns being the leader
- resolving conflicts that may arise during outside play

Dramatic Play: "A Visit to the Doctor"

By Adriana Calderon (T/Th A.M.)

Teacher Amanda set up a doctor's office for the children to play at. She presented the children with all of the different steps they go through when they visit their doctor. There was a waiting area with chairs and magazines for the children to read; there was a desk, phone and secretary station. Then, she had a doctor's room where patients were seeing by the doctor; there were beds, clothes and all of the different tools doctors use to examine their patients.

What are they learning? This imaginative play activity allows children to play cooperatively. This type of symbolic play will incorporate schemes that happen in their own lives. As children reconstruct real life information into

the play scenario, their attention will be focused for a longer period of time. Children will also expand their vocabulary.

A Bear Hunt Circle Time

By Kimberly Thomas (M/W A.M.)

After discussing the weather, Teacher Kimberly presented children with the story, "We're Going on a bear hunt" by Helen Oxenbury and Michael Rosen. The story entails a father and his four children going on a bear hunt traveling through a river, mud, a forest, and snowstorm to find a bear. Once they find the bear they race back through the steps they initially made to get away from the bear. After the story was read Teacher Kimberly had the children go on their own bear hunt by following a song.

What are they learning?

Music & Movement: Children will learn to move in time to different patterns of beat and rhythm in music.

Listening Skills: Children will demonstrate their ability to pay attention to and understand conversations, stories, songs, and poems.

A Doggie Circle Time

By Eddie Mancini (M/W P.M.)

In the PM session with Teacher Eddie we read a few stories about dogs. One was a funny book that put us in the perspective of the dog, and heard funny stories about things that

dogs do and their thinking behind it. After reading the stories we played the game "Doggy, Doggy, Where's Your Bone". In this game we had to use deducing skills to figure out which one of our friends was hiding the bone.

What are they learning?

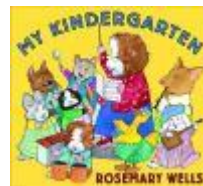
This game involves using logic, reason, and skills of perception. We all had a blast guessing who had the bone and ended up laughing though half of the game!

Getting Ready for Kindergarten

It's never too early to start talking about what to expect at a new school. Below are some books that are sure to bring great discussions about what to expect next Fall.

This list of books came from the San Jose Public Library website.

<http://www.sjpl.org/startingschool>



My Kindergarten

by Rosemary Wells
Emily takes a month-by-month look at the kindergarten year.

Countdown to Kindergarten

by Alison McGhee

It's ten days before kindergarten - and according to a first grader, the rules include you can't get in unless you know how to tie your shoes all by yourself.

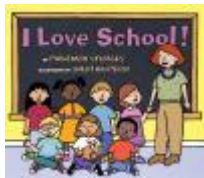


First Day

by Joan Rankin
It's the first day at Yappy Puppy Play School and Haybillybun is not sure he wants to go.

I Am Too Absolutely Small for School

by Lauren Child
Charlie must convince Lola to give school a chance, though she is full of reasons why she doesn't need it.



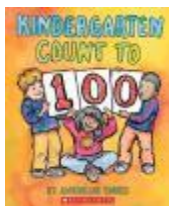
I Love School!

by Philiemon Sturges
Come along to a warm, friendly world of reading and

writing, singing and painting, and all-around fun that will make you want to yell, "I love school!"

My First Day of School

by Nancy J. Skarmeas
Daniel liked preschool, but is not so sure he wants to go to kindergarten.



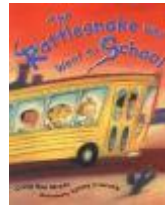
Kindergarten Count to 100

by Jacqueline Rogers
Petey counts his way through the day using everything from his

crayons to his footsteps.

Mouse's First Day of School

by Lauren Thompson
Mouse finds a world of new objects and new friends at school.



The Rattlesnake Who Went to School

by Craig Strete
Crowboy is worried about his first day of school, so he decides to

become a rattlesnake to protect himself.

What Did You Do Today?: The First Day of School

by Toby Forward
There's a lot to do on the first day of school: meet new friends, practice writing, eat lunch, and play!

Have a wonderful summer!

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns.

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**If you need to get a hold of me during class time, please call the kitchen phone.