

Peek At The Week

Miss Peartree

Mrs. Zanello

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We've been having a good time in kindergarten! Last week, we were busy preparing for Halloween. We read many funny and spooky books, played Halloween games, learned about bats and spiders, and drew pictures of our Halloween costumes! It was so much fun celebrating Halloween together on Monday. Thank you to all of the parents that helped to plan our party. The children had a wonderful time. We have moved into November and are now learning about the fall harvest. This week we focused on pumpkins. The children learned about how they grow, read and made books about them, and listened to pumpkin songs and poems. Our favorite book was How Many Seeds In A Pumpkin? We liked it so much that we were inspired to conduct our own pumpkin experiment like the one in the story. First, we got two pumpkins, one large and one small. For each pumpkin, we estimated the height, weight, and number of seeds inside. The children also predicted whether it would sink or float. Then we measured and tested each of those things. The children recorded all of their observations in their "Pumpkin Journals." Finally, we scooped out all of the seeds, then counted and compared them. It was a lot of work and a little messy, but a lot of fun!

We also celebrated the Feast of All Saints this week. We attended Mass on Tuesday and continued to learn more about saints in class during the week. The children realized that saints were so special because they gave gifts of love and compassion, and tried to be like saints by showing love to each other. This was a perfect way to practice all that we learned at last week's assemblies. One was our school's monthly anti-bullying assembly and the other was a PSA sponsored program, "Show of Love." Both focused on the importance of treating others with respect, listening to others, and showing empathy. These are things that K-1 students are very familiar with, as we often discuss such topics in class and always strive to be "bucket-fillers."

During Daily 5, the children have continued to work in the "Read To Self" and "Work On Writing" centers. As always, I have been impressed with their efforts and they are becoming great readers and writers! They've made it all the way through the letter Hh in their Handwriting Journals. Each week we focus on one letter. We print it, identify it in print, learn the sound, and work together to make a list of words that begin with that letter. We've also added several new words to our Word Wall. Our author study of Mo Willems has finally come to a close. This week, the children completed their final writing project based on his "Pigeon" books. Each child drew his/her own pigeon, wrote a title for a new book about the pigeon, and created a cover for the book. The children were so proud of their work!

In math, we've begun to practice counting, ordering, and printing numbers 11-20. We also used our Estimation Jar for the first time when we estimated, then counted, the number of spider rings inside on Halloween. The children have also been practicing important math concepts (although they probably don't realize it!) as they work with Math Tubs for their Morning Work. These are baskets with various hands-on math activities, and they encourage the children work on sorting, counting, patterns, number recognition, printing, and more. The children are learning so much, and they are having so much fun doing it!

Have a great weekend!

Miss Peartree

Five Little Pumpkins



Five little pumpkins sitting on a gate,
The first one said, "Oh my, it's getting late."



The second one said, "There are witches in the air."

The third one said, "But we don't care."



The fourth one said, "Let's run, let's run!"



The fifth one said, "Isn't Halloween fun?"

Then WOOOO went the wind, and OUT went the lights,
And five little pumpkins rolled out of sight!



Five Little Spiders

Five little spiders crawling all around.

The first one said,
"See the bug I found?"

The second one said,
"My web is neat."

The third one said,
"I have eight feet."

The fourth one said,
"We're all so small."

The fifth one said,
"Time for autumn leaves to fall."

Then whoosh went the wind and out went the light
And the five little spiders crawled out of sight!

