

It was another busy and fun-filled week in kindergarten. We have been talking about our five senses, our families, and what we like to do at school. We've had our pictures taken, did another set of work jobs, sang and danced ourselves silly. When you're five years old - silly isn't a very long way off.

Tuesday we had our first library class with Ms. Scanlon. She came to our room since the library is still under construction. We love to hear stories. Ms. Scanlon says that she will let us check out library books, but we can only take them to our classroom. We will read them there. You have to be a first grader to take school library books home.

Our letters and numbers are amazing! We have been playing sorting, classification and grouping games all week. Is it a number or a letter? How are these things alike or different? Which of these things belongs with the others? Which of these things doesn't belong? We even get to do signs with our hands when we answer. It's cool and it makes us smarter. Ask your child to show you the signs for alike and different. S/He can do it. We are still practicing our curved and straight lines, horizontal, vertical and diagonal.

We have looked at the letters A, B, C and D. Our Alphabet Book has some really silly poems that go with the letters. Ms. Christine reads them to us and sometimes we listen to them on the CD. They are funny.

Ms. Christine has a lot of rhyming word cards with pictures of the funniest things. She tries to fool us, but we can hear the words that rhyme and the words that do not rhyme. We use our sign language signs when we play that game too.

Our Work Jobs included reading books; writing and coloring in our passports; and working with play dough. We also created the right side of the gingerbread symmetry page; sorted buttons; wrote with chalk and slates; and each of us created a page in the All I am book that the class made. We tried to make binoculars, but we had a hard time with the stapler, so Ms. Christine will get them together for us for next week.

We read some good books this week, including Quick As A Cricket, Sense Suspense, Never Tease a Weasel and the senses books. We also sang lots of songs and learned two new dances, the Hokey Pokey and the Chicken Dance. We are great at both.

We read the Hickory Dickory Dock rhyme and Ms. Christine had a video of a claymation version on it. It was cool. It showed how the artists decided how to make the mouse and clock and how they photographed the whole story. It was a lot of work. And it was interesting too.

The most exciting thing of the whole week was our first take home book. We can read!! Our book is called The Park. We get to read every page. Our first word is a sight word. It is "the." We just have to learn it. It's a word that you can't sound out. It's just "the."

We had a terrific conversation about wild and domestic animals. Wild animals never need people to feed them. So when we go to a park, beach, or

playground, we should never feed the animals "people" food. After all, have you ever seen a squirrel or bird in the supermarket buying bread, crackers or cereal? People only feed domestic animals- dogs, cats, or farm animals. The animals that live with people, count on people for their food. Simple, eh? We are so smart! We also learned that ducks love to live in the marsh, a good habitat for ducks.

This conversation happened because we learned a new song by Ms. Christine's favorite band, The Banana Slug String Band. The Slugs sing a song called, "Butts Up." It's a song about ducks and how dabbling ducks tip upside down when they put their heads under the water to look for twigs, seeds, stems, worms and snails that are hidden in the mud on the bottom. We also talked about referring to our bottoms as bottoms and not using inappropriate words when we talk together. The song is really cool. Ducks get a tasty marsh mud shake filled with water and goo! Sounds delicious to us!

Special thanks to all the parents that attended Back to School Night. Ms. Christine was happy to see all of you! She loves this class and enjoys all her time with them. Remember that our classroom door is always open. Ms. Christine has time to chat with you about your child or our class.

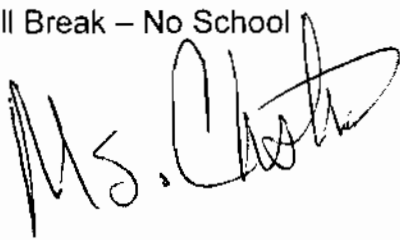
Parents helpers needed: 1) One parent is needed to rip out the decodable booklets and staple each one together. This is a perfect job for a parent with a baby at home that naps. There are 40 booklets for 24 children. The upside is -we only need one set of booklets per week. 2) Several parents needed to walk to the fire station week after next. If you are willing or able to do these jobs, please get back to Ms. Christine ASAP. Thanks!

Dates to Remember

September 6 – Labor Day Holiday – No School

September 23 - School Pictures

October 11- 15 – Fall Break – No School

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ms. Christine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.