

# March 2010 Firefly/Ladybug Toddler Preschool Newsletter

March is here and the Fireflies and Ladybugs are anxiously waiting for Spring! February brought lots of talk of emotions and Valentine's. We also enjoyed learning all about transportation. During the month of March the teachers have planned a wonderful curriculum for our Fireflies and Ladybugs that will include Leprechaun hunts, a cat in a hat and no mess shaving cream. Let's hope March brings us some warmer weather.

## Reminders

\*Parents during the week of "Dr. Seuss" we will be making t-shirts. Please bring in a plain white t-shirt for your child by MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup>.

\*The Fireflies are asking for any old shoe boxes that you may have.

\*The weather is starting to get a little warmer, however there are still some very cold days. Please continue to bring your child to school with hats, gloves, jackets and extra clothing

\*As always the Fireflies and Ladybugs enjoy having extra fruit during morning and afternoon snack. Please sign up on our "Fruit Sign-up" on the classroom door.

## Dates to Remeber

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March 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup>	Miss Francine on vacation
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	Miss Jen vacation
March 19 <sup>th</sup>	Miss Barbara vacation
March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Miss Jen vacation
March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Miss Barbara vacation
March 25 <sup>th</sup>	HAPPY BIRTHDAY MISS FRANCINE!!

# Curriculum

## **March 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Sports**

He shoots, he scores!! The crowd goes wild! Get ready; the first week of March is all about sports. During this week we will be reading stories like “Take me out to the Ball Game” and “Froggy plays Soccer”. The Fireflies and Ladybugs will be cutting out magazine clippings that have to do with sports and gluing them to make a group collage. This activity will strengthen hand grasp and flexibility which meets a health education learning guideline. We will be having a bean bag toss as well as bowling. While bowling and tossing the bean bags the children will be building upon their gross motor skills. They will also meet the Movement and Dance D.O.E guideline “ Children should explore activities and vocabulary related to movement, balance, strength and flexibility.” Another activity we will be doing is puff painting footballs.

## **March 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 5 Senses**

During the second week of March the Fireflies and Ladybugs will be discovering and exploring sights, smells, sounds, taste and touch. One activity we are very excited about is, cinnamon stick coloring on sandpaper. While participating in this activity the children will be experimenting with the use of texture in artwork which meets The Arts D.O.E. guidelines. The Fireflies and Ladybugs will also be able to explore the “Feely box”. This box contains several different textured objects, the children will place their hands in the box and describe what they are feeling and make guesses about what the objects could be. This activity meets the D.O.E Mathematics standard “Children explore and describe a wide variety of concrete objects by their attributes.” During this week we will also be doing the finger play “Open shut them” and singing songs like “Sticky bubble gum”.

## **March 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> St. Patrick’s Day**

The leprechauns are coming and they are going to make a huge mess!! It is a tradition in the FireFly and Ladybug classrooms every year that the Leprechauns come to visit us on St. Patrick’s Day. Thing is ... those tricky leprechauns come while we are outside on the playground and they play with all of our toys and when we come in from the playground they have left a messy trail of glitter and toys. During this week we are going to paint shamrocks. This activity meets the D.O.E. guideline, “Children build upper body strength and

stability to gain controlled movement of shoulders.” The Firefly and Ladybugs will also be painting and gluing and box to catch the leprechauns in. Children will create scenarios, props, and settings for dramatizations and dramatic play which is a D.O.E learning standard.

### **March 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> Dr. Seuss**

“One fish two fish red fish blue fish.” This week is dedicated to the stories and illustrations of Dr. Seuss. Children absolutely love the several stories by this author. Through out this week children will listen to several books by the same author which is an English Language Arts D.O.E. standard. As a class we will read the story “One Fish Two Fish” after we will be making our very own red and blue fish t-shirt. While reading this story children will engage in play experiences that involve naming and sorting common words into various classifications using general and specific language. This is an English Language arts D.O.E standard.

### **March 29<sup>th</sup> – April 9<sup>th</sup> Spring**

The Fireflies and Ladybugs can not wait to jump into spring. Spring has so many educational experiences to explore. It is a season of life and new growth. This is why we have planned two weeks of spring curriculum. We are going to be making no mess rainbows. This activity will meet the D.O.E standard “Children use their senses of sight, hearing, touch, smell and taste to explore their environment using sensory vocabulary. We will be learning about the needs of plant life by watering white carnations with various colored waters. While the children observe the change in color everyday they will be engaging in the life science guidelines “Children observe and identify the characteristics and needs of living things. Children will have the opportunity to compare and contrast natural materials such as water, rocks, soil and living organisms using descriptive language while playing in the sensory table. This is a D.O.E Earth Science guideline. During these weeks we will be reading stories like “Bear Shadow”, “Bumble Bee Bumble Bee Do You know me” and “Spring Cleaning”

**Much thanks from the Ladybug and Firefly Teachers!!**