

Branch 2018 Newsletter



Where do we begin? March proved to be quite a busy month...it was difficult to fit in all the learning, activities and art planned; but we did it! We began our 'Rainbow Study' by just simply talking about the rainbow, its colors and its shape. As a whole group, we discussed how a rainbow is created. Our Branchers discovered that a rainbow is formed when sunlight shines through raindrops. Simple explanation, big result!

Our Branchers were so excited to learn just how a rainbow was formed! As we made our way out to recess that morning after our discussion, many friends in the classroom ran outside to search the sky for that beautiful and colorful arch. With all the excitement discovering different facts and knowledge about rainbows, it was time for a little voting! As you know, our classroom votes nearly daily...whether it is voting on a book to read or what stations to set out, we provide our Branchers the opportunity to give their opinion and have a chance to stand out and say what they like! Our voting topic for the day: "What is your favorite color in the rainbow?" Each Brancher was able to stand in front of their friends at circle and say their favorite color. Once their color was chosen, a colored rectangle was added to a rainbow arch according to the color chosen. Once all of our votes were in place, we then tallied up each color's votes. We thoroughly enjoyed each Brancher's thought process as they decided which their favorite color...was (orange won by the way). When the voting was done and the rainbow graph was up, we decided it was about time for some rainbow art! A tissue paper twist rainbow was first on our art list! This art activity consisted of coloring, cutting, gluing and tissue paper twisting. We began by coloring a simple rainbow. Once the rainbow coloring was finished, next came the tissue paper twisting. This requires a lot of finger muscles and fine motor skills. To twist the tissue paper, each Brancher was asked to grab a single piece of tissue paper and twist it around the eraser of a pencil, then set the tissue paper on the rainbow itself. With skill and determination, many of our Branchers created a full beautiful 3D rainbow! This was quite an art project and each rainbow created was individually amazing, just like each Brancher in our classroom! Because art is so wonderful, we didn't stop there. We also cut out clouds, laced the clouds and stuffed the clouds to form yet another 3D creation. With each one of the art activities provided, we love to include many different skills to be focused on. Cutting, gluing, coloring, lacing, and even tissue paper twisting are wonderful activities to build up fine motor skills. We are so proud each day as we witness the progress each Brancher has made. Whether it is coloring inside the lines, to cutting on the line and following the shape provided, we have seen such impressive growth!

As you may know, we had a tricky leprechaun come and visit us the week before St. Patrick's Day! We discovered that his name was Ryan O'Brian. He was a leprechaun who stood at only 2 inches tall. He was so small, that we could never find him! We knew he was there though! As we entered our classroom

one day, we discovered that Ryan O'Brian had played with all of our toys and clearly did not pick up after himself! Our responsible Branchers cleaned up after him and put everything back in it's place. The trickiness didn't stop there; after our rest time, each Brancher woke up to green glitter surrounding them! Ryan O' Brian LOVES glitter and decided to share with each friend in the classroom. To this day, we are still finding glitter throughout the classroom! The last day searching for Ryan O'Brian consisted of going on a shamrock scavenger hunt! Letters and clues were left throughout the classroom in hopes the Branchers could find Ryan O'Brian's lost gold! Sure enough, our Brancher friends were able to listen and follow each direction given. We found the missing gold and in return earned leprechaun kisses (Hershey kisses). Though we had a lot of fun with our classroom leprechaun and all of his shenanigans, we were happy to send him back to his homeland of Ireland. Until next year, Ryan O'Brian!

We celebrated a very special birthday in our classroom in the month of March. That birthday belonged to Dr. Seuss! We celebrated his special day, by reading a wonderful Dr. Seuss book, titled "Bartholomew and the Oobleck" and making Oobleck to take home for our very own! We ended the day, by letting each Brancher choose one Dr. Seuss pencil and one Dr. Seuss eraser. What a fun day to celebrate such an amazing author!

Each month is full to the brim on things we've learned, art we have created, science activities we have participated in and books we've read; it is challenging to fit it all in one newsletter!

April will be just as full, we can guarantee that! Our study for the month of April, will be a "Weather Study" You know the saying....."April Showers bring May Flowers"

- Friday, April 13th- Conferences. There will be NO SCHOOL on that day. Sign-up sheets will

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to one of us.

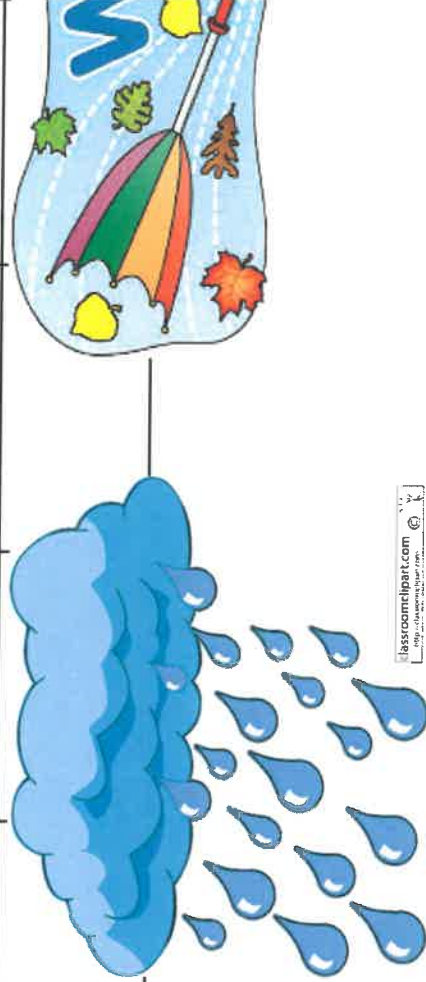
Happy spring!



Ms. Heather, Ms. McKenzie and Ms. Stacie

APRIL SHOWERS...

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| APRIL 1ST. | Q&A | FAVORITE WEATHER | WINDY WEATHER | WILL THE WIND | WEATHER |
| EASTER | WHAT IS WEATHER? | GRAPHING | MOBILE | BLOW IT? | SENSORY BOTTLES |
| | COOL | LITTLE CLOUD | CLOUD | CLOUD | GT CLOSED |
| APRIL 13TH. | CLOUD | BY: ERIC | WATCHING | ADDITION | CONFERENCES |
| CONFERENCES | SCIENCE | CARLE | BINOCULARS | SUBTRACTION | |
| | CLOUD & RAIN | RAIN DANCE | STORM & RAIN | RAINDROP | WAX |
| | WINDY | AND | IN A | SUBTRACTION | RAINDROP |
| | WINDSOCK | RAIN STICKS | JAR | ADDITION | SUNCATCHERS |
| | PAPER PLATE | WATER | WEATHER | WONDERFUL | TRACING LINES |
| | UMBRELLAS | CYCLE | SORT & | WEATHER | & |
| | RAINDROPS | BAGS | CLASSIFY | WORDS | LOOSE PARTS |
| | APRIL SHOWERS | | | | |
| | BRING | | | | |
| | MAY FLOWERS! | | | | |



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