

THE MONTHLY BLOSSOM

GROWING TREE CHILDREN'S CENTER

March 1, 2019

Dear Families,

The sea has truly cast a spell of wonder on all of us in the Blossom room. We loved seeing your children in awe of the ocean's many magical creatures, environments and changes this month. We enjoyed countless fiction and non fiction books, including stories by Eric Carle and Chris Van Allsburg. We have even started our first chapter book, that we listen to before nap time, *Magic Treehouse: Dark Day in the Deep Sea*. Your Blossoms are now experts on animals and their unique adaptations from each ocean zone. We shared experiences, observed ocean footage, investigated artifacts and discussed our role in the ocean's changing environments. We hope your children will truly carry the sea's grand wonder with them forever!

Questions to ask your oceanographer:

- *Do sperm whales only live in the Midnight Zone (where they do their feeding)?*
- *Who would win in a battle between a giant squid and sperm whale?*
- *What was the most interesting bioluminescent animal you learned about? Where does it live? How does it find its food?*
- *If you were an explorer and oceanographer, where would you want to explore?*
- *How can our family help keep our oceans a safe home for all of the creatures who call it home?*

This March we will reign in our vast explorations of the ocean to focus more locally on some of our favorite Oregon animals. We will begin with beavers—a keystone species that

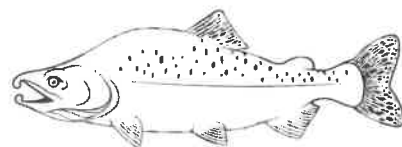
creates invaluable habitat for many animals. We'll use real artifacts, legends and observations of beavers, their homes and their habitats to investigate the creatures that once dominated the West. As we continue our study we'll learn the life cycle of salmon as they mysteriously move downstream to the ocean and back again. Over the following weeks we will explore the birds of Oregon and end our study learning about our beloved coyote, the legendary figure of great wild western America. If you have any materials, items, stories or photographs to share please let us know!

We do our best to keep your children's hats and gloves safe at school and convenient for you and them to find. We encourage Blossom's to use their 'blue basket' at the top of their cubby. Your encouragement goes a long way! Thank you for helping us stay, oh so warm!

As cold, snowy weather continues and we have limited space in cubbies to store items we ask Blossoms to choose **one small stuffy** to bring to school for nap each day. Your helpfulness is appreciated!

As always, we are so grateful to you for sharing your creative, kind, curious, clever, capable, caring children with us each day.

We wish you well,
Emily, Tim, Coyote, Kinderoo & Joey



March '19

Oregon Animals

Notes:

- Mar. 1st - First Friday
- Mar. 4th - Swim Sign Up
- Mar. 17th - St. Patrick's Day
- Mar. 18th - Book Fair

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1
4	5	6	7	8
Beavers	Beavers	Beavers	Beavers	Beavers
11	12	13	14	15
Salmon	Salmon	Salmon	Salmon	Salmon
18	19	20	21	22
Birds	Birds	Birds	Birds	Birds
25	26	27	28	29
Coyotes	Coyotes	Coyotes	Coyotes	Coyotes
				Ocean Changes Waste

