



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

3rd -- Elaina F.
6th -- Miss Victoria
7th -- Nolan R.
8th -- Miss Emily S.
10th -- Josh G.
10th -- Bradyn S.
11th -- Miss Leslie
13th -- Aaron A.
15th -- Lorenzo B.
16th -- Connor D.
21st -- Troy W.
24th -- Sophia F.
25th -- Margie H.
28th -- Adam P.



Winter Reviews

It's Winter Review time! As we pass through the sixth month of the "academic" year, we will be sending home a synopsis of your child's developmental progress, as observed here at Kid Country. Our teachers are continually assessing your children during their play and recording their observations. We then review their progress to help develop our lesson plans to the needs of the children in the class. We are able to easily identify those that need a little more encouragement to meet the next developmental milestone along with those that need more challenging activities to keep them progressing.

The Winter Review that you will receive is our observations to date of your child's progress. We are observing your child in the five domains of social-emotional, physical, language, cognitive and literacy development. There is a total of 38 objectives contained within those areas! We can show your child's progress in any area from the time he/she enrolled at Kid Country. This cumulative data is very beneficial as we check to make sure your child is hitting all the developmental milestones.

We will be offering formal parent/teacher conferences in May, but if you would like to speak one-on-one with our child's teachers before that, please reach out and we will get a meeting scheduled! We are always available to meet with you to discuss progress or discuss concerns, just let us know and we will make it happen.

We are also conducting our annual registration process. Every family has received a registration packet for Summer 2020 and Fall 2020-21. Be sure to turn your papers in by February 7 to reserve your child's spots at Kid Country.

Our Valentine Day parties will be held on Friday, February 14. The children are always excited for these special party days and we thank you for making them so special by volunteering and donating the needed items for the parties! If you haven't signed up yet, please check out the sign-up sheets that are posted in the hallway.

We've been enjoying the relatively mild winter with outside time on a regular basis! Let's hope that continues through February! Have a great month everyone!

Donna

GREEN FROGS

In the Green Frogs classroom, we spent the month of January learning about the Arctic. We began by learning about the weather and climate. We learned that people that live in the Arctic live in igloos that are made of ice. Frogs painted igloos using legos and "stamping" the ice pattern to the igloo. The children then used the other side of the lego to "stamp" snow onto the Arctic scene. These paintings are used to decorate the snow slopes that are on the walls in our room! We also learned about icebergs, and saw first-hand how they float in the water, but that most of the ice remains under the water.

While talking about the weather, we talked about the different clothing that

people wear when it is cold outside. The Green Frogs listed all of the things that keep you warm and dry. We learned how to say hats (*gorras*), gloves (*guantes*), boots (*botas*), and scarf (*bufanda*) in Spanish! We practiced these words by dressing up and having relay races in the hallway!! Other words to ask your child about are "chico" (boy) and "chica" (girl).



Next, we learned about the animals of the Arctic. It is hard to realize how big Polar Bears actually are, so to bring it more to our life, the Green Frogs put their little foot print inside of a big Polar Bear print to see the difference. Wow! Polar Bears are BIG!!! Green Frogs also enjoyed painting Polar

Bears white using stencils, pom-poms and glitter.

The Green Frogs loved learning about penguins, waddling around the classroom and learning that even with wings, they don't fly. They made penguins out of construction paper and googly eyes, working on their cutting fine motor skills. We also went to the Arctic as scientists! Animals were frozen in ice and we used different salt and water to spray and break the animals out of the ice.

We are excited to see what other wonders and unique animals the Arctic has to show us next!

Miss Fran, Miss Wendy and Miss Eileen



Blue Gills

The Gills took advantage of our warmer winter temperatures by spending a lot of time outside. Although we didn't

experience a whole lot of snow during the month of January, the children still wanted to learn more about it. So, we started our study by talking about how snow is formed by tiny ice crystals sticking together to make snowflakes. We took that knowledge to the art area and quickly started making snowflakes to decorate the classroom. All of the snow in the room gave

us motivation to explore it more through talking about air temperatures and surface temperatures. While talking about temperatures we learned that higher temperatures needed bigger numbers, while lower temperatures needed smaller numbers, allowing us to expand our number vocabulary.

As we continued with our Winter study, we spent time discussing the different things

we could do outside to generate body heat to stay warm. One of our favorite activities was indoor ice skating. To simulate the feeling that we were gliding across the rink, we attached wax paper to our feet and slid around the carpet as if we were part of the ice capades. It was a hard lesson in balance for some but fun never-the-less. For the children that have never actually been ice skating it was a laughing good time while we still got to work out our muscles.

Miss Rhonda



PURPLE PARROTS RED ROBINS

The month of January seemed like the perfect time to take a cruise in the Purple Parrots room! We thought it would be fun to spend time exploring the animals, environments and music that make up the tropical parts of this world. The toddlers were able to explore the warmer climates through various crafts such as creating volcanos, jellyfish, pineapples, starfish and pufferfish. The Parrots were also able to expand their sensory skills through playing with "ocean foam", going on a seashell hunt and playing in blue shaving cream. They were able to expand their vocabulary by trying to pronounce different animal names and the noises that went with each one. It was a joy to think about the sunshine and fun that takes place in the sun!



Being able to explore different parts of the world is very important to each of the Purple Parrots because they are able to expand their horizons in multiple ways. For instance, they start making connections between warm weather and the animals that live there. This will hopefully extend into other parts of their world. They work on skills that involve talking about a different place or time which is such a helpful skill to develop. This was emphasized when the toddlers played in the water and made the connection of which animals live there. We are excited to keep exploring the world around us through different holidays and season changes to come! Miss Stacy, Miss Victoria, Miss Kathy, Miss Kelly and Miss Abby

The Red Robins spent the month of January going on a trip around the world! Learning about diversity has a huge impact on a child's social-emotional development. It also teaches children to be empathetic of others by learning different cultural aspects of their peers. We focused on learning about six different countries throughout the month. First, we learned about the country we live in, the United States of America. We made American flags out of construction paper and used green daubers to color the statue of liberty! Next, the Robins learned about Mexico! We created flags using tissue paper, colored sombreros, and created our own chili peppers! The Red Robins also learned about Ireland, China, Germany, and South Africa! For those countries we had special snacks that those countries would enjoy and made group projects such as murals to learn more about them. The Red Robins loved learning about all the different countries throughout the month!

To end the month, we read books about how people come from different places and they have different ways of doing things but are human just like us! The Robins also went outside towards the end of the month which was much needed! We are hoping the weather stays mild and we can continue to get some fresh air in February!

Miss Krista, Miss Kasey and Miss Emily S.

Blue Dolphins

As we welcomed in 2020, many of the children spent some quality time at home with their families. For those that were here at Kid Country, we spiced things up a bit by having the Dolphins spend time in some other classrooms helping out, along with showing the Orange Owls the ropes of the big kids' room! As school resumed, the children have been spending more time playing longer games with a group and practicing their cooperative skills such as turn-taking, patience, and working out strategies. The art area has also become very popular in recent weeks! The children have been showcasing their creativity with many different masterpieces! Please

remember that we will still get outside in the afternoons when the weather permits, so make sure your child is dressed appropriately every day. Happy New Year! Miss Wendy, Miss Rhonda and Mr. Joey



ORANGE OWLS

The Orange Owls flew through January as they explored space and all it has to teach us! We began our study with stars, asteroids and our moon. Our moon was of much interest to us as we all have it in common. Whether at school, home or on vacation, we all concluded that we can always see the moon at night, or at least know it is there. We learned that, just like planets, moons have names as well and our moon is named Luna. We connected this to a few of our favorite characters, recalling how even they have moon symbols or the colors of our fabulous friend the moon.



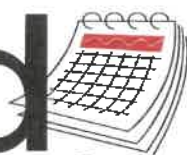
has a never-ending storm in its large red dot.

The Orange Owls focused primarily on their number recognition and counting with the help of space exploration. With the help of their own, created planet they were able to roll, count and place as many moons as they wanted using a dice and moon stickers. Then with the help of Saturn's rings, they were able to return other planets missing rings by counting the number of dots on each ring and tossing it onto the planet with the corresponding number. Within these

activities not only were they working on number recognition and counting, but

We then blasted off in our rocket ships as we learned about astronauts. It was a bit difficult at first to understand how they live in space with no gravity, but with the help of NASA resources we were able to see firsthand how they eat, drink, and even wash their hands! Much different from what it is like here on Earth with gravity, as we agreed that most of us would not be able to imagine living like that every day! Learning about astronauts led us into our exploration of the solar system. We visited each of the planets, learning about their unique characteristics. Such characteristics as Mars having the largest volcano, Uranus rotates on its side, and that Jupiter is not only the biggest but

Kid Calendar



Week of 2/3

Friday, 2/7

Friday, 2/14

Thursday, 2/20

Winter reviews sent home

2020 Registration Papers Due

Valentine Day Parties

Library Day

YELLOW DUCKS

January has brought winter weather to Kid Country and the Yellow Ducks room. Since the weather has been a little too chilly for the Ducks to venture out in, the Yellow Ducks teachers have brought the winter inside! To include the weather in our lesson plans, the Ducks teachers have been reading plenty of winter themed books and also have let the Ducks look outside the windows to see the snow. Miss Leslie also created some snowmen to hang on the walls for the Ducks to show off their fine motor skills.

In addition, the Yellow Ducks welcomed many new faces to the Duck pond! Interactions and socialization at such an early age is extremely important. The first twelve months of a child's life are full of social developmental milestones. As they grow and develop throughout that first year, they rapidly become more communicative and expressive.

The teachers of the Yellow Ducks room

hand-eye coordination, balance, multistep directions, and listening skills.

We had an absolute blast in space and cannot wait to see where our next adventure takes us!

Miss Bailey, Miss Molly, Miss Jessica and Miss Donna K



want to welcome Liam, Kelsey and Riley to the Duck Pond! We are excited to continue to build a bond with each child and learn about their individual personalities.

Miss Emily and Miss Leslie

