



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

- 3rd -- Elaina F.
- 5th -- Taylor G.
- 6th -- Miss Victoria
- 7th -- Blythe C.
- 7th -- Gwen C.
- 8th -- Miss Emily S.
- 10th -- Bradyn S.
- 11th -- Miss Leslie
- 16th -- Connor D.
- 17th -- Mason A.
- 21st -- Troy W.
- 24th -- Sophia F.
- 28th -- Jaxon Y.
- 28th -- Adam P.



Feeling the Love

It may have been cold outside this month, but our hearts were full and warm inside! Kid Country is so blessed to have such amazing families that continue to put their trust in us through these difficult times and remain so cooperative and patient with all the COVID procedures! THANK YOU for your continued support, we truly appreciate it and feel your love!

Speaking of love, we are going to continue the theme and enjoy Valentine Days parties in all of our classrooms. Watch for the party sheets to be posted up front for your chance to donate items to make our parties extra special. We miss having parent volunteers at these parties, and we are hoping and praying we get to resume this practice at some point during 2021!

Our annual registration drive for summer and fall will also be happening later this month. While you wait to get the registration paperwork, start thinking about what schedule you will need for summer and fall 2021. I know that current circumstances make planning difficult but do your best and I promise we will continue to

stay flexible as well.

As winter gets ready to bless us with our first major snowfall, be aware that we use our Tadpoles system to notify families about any emergency closings or situations. If we find it necessary to close or make any changes to our operating hours, we will notify all families via text and email from the Tadpoles program. Let's hope we don't need to do that this year, but we need to be prepared!

I'm looking forward to all the fun that February brings to Kid Country! Have a great month everyone!

Donna



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YELLOW DUCKS

The Yellow Ducks successfully completed January of 2021 with new additions to our classroom. We are beyond excited to have expanded our classroom and have new friends. The first month of the year is a special month filled with new goals and new methods for achieving objectives for the infants. As most of the Yellow Ducks have turned the corner to strive towards their first birthdays the teachers are focused on new methods of development.

The main focus for the month of January was sensory play. The winter season provides lots of indoor play time and new natural items for sensory play. Sensory play is beneficial to your child's development because it ignites nerve connections in the brain's pathways, leading to more opportunities for children to be able to complete more complex learning objectives. Sensory play also engages a child's language development, cognitive growth, motor skills, problem solving, and social engagement. The weather provided our area with generous amounts of snow. Ms. Emily

pieces are stored in a wipe container extending the fine motor play as well as new textures. The fabric is washed daily and properly sanitized through the day between uses.

Overall, the month of January was objective driven and of course fun. The implication of sensory play was a success and the teachers will continue to influence the children to explore new textures and nature. With the new additions to the

classroom the Yellow Ducks teachers are enthused to observe and foster the children's development. The Yellow Ducks classroom is excited to see what February will bring to Kid Country Childcare. Ms. Emily, Ms. Leslie, and Ms. Karen



GREEN

The Green Frogs began the year exploring the Arctic world. We discovered the Arctic is covered in snow and ice. In our exploration, we discovered rivers of ice called glaciers. To help us understand how glaciers move we made a model with tubes and rice to show how the glacier moves rocks as it slowly moves across the land.

We were excited to watch a video of icebergs being created as the glacier moved to the ocean. We made our own icebergs from white paper. We placed blue streamers over the bigger part of the iceberg to show that most of the iceberg is under the water. The Frogs have created their own glacier

on the classroom wall, to show the movement of our glacier we add a strip of blue paper to our Arctic scene every day.

The climate in the Arctic is very cold and the people who live their must wear special outdoor clothes. So, to explore our Arctic room we made a parka (coat), garliik (pants) and mukluks (boots) for our arctic explorers. As a personal touch we added our happy little faces nestled warmly in our

FROGS

fur lined hoods.

As the Frogs learned about the animals in the Arctic they were curious about how the animals stay warm in the icy water. We put on scientist goggles and investigated this question. The teachers lined two zip lock bags with lard to represent the blubber on the Arctic animals and placed a bowl of ice on the table. Each Frog took a turn placing one hand in the bag and then submerged both hands in the icy water. They were able to tell us that the hand in the blubber was warmer and their other hand was freezing! We enjoyed our chilly trek through the Arctic, but look forward to warmer studies that lie ahead! Miss Fran, Miss Wendy and Miss Kelly



collected several small bins of snow for the children to explore. The children sat with one another but had their own bin of snow to explore. The social interactions were still present in a safe and sanitized manner. As the children utilized their senses to experience the snow Ms. Emily and Ms. Leslie provided simple, descriptive words to further the connection. Another method of sensory play is the addition of fabric samples to our quiet area. The varieties of fabric



PURPLE PARROTS

Brrrr! It has been a cold month in the Purple Parrots room! The toddlers have been learning all about arctic animals and where they live. Polar bears, penguins, and snowy owls have been the animals in the spotlight this month. They have loved learning how these animals move and what noises they make. The Parrots are experts on the penguin waddle now! They have also been having a blast creating their own versions of each animal through different crafts and other fine motor activities. The toddlers are big fans of playing with snow and painting with ice!

There were a few weeks spent in the arctic but then the Parrots decided to experience some warmer weather on a cruise!

Sometimes you just need to get away and soak up the sunshine. That is exactly



what happened in the Purple Parrots classroom! They were able to make a baby shark, paint with sand, use watercolors to paint a seashell and then we had a beach party in our own classroom! They were decked out in their beach attire and there were beach themed activities for everyone. The Purple Parrots are excited for the months to come in 2021! Miss Victoria, Miss Kathy, Miss Emily S., and Miss Karen



RED ROBINS

January was a busy month for the Red Robins. We attempted to keep the winter blues away by keeping active and introducing new activities to the class. We started out the month with a variety of concept skills. The children exercised their fine motor skills playing playdough, their colors during one-on-one table time, and spatial relationships. We will continue to work on these things during the colder months and start preparing the Red Robins for the Green Frogs classroom.

This month, we also introduced the theme of ocean in the classroom. We have talked about different ocean animals, their environments, what each of the animals do, and many more things. The teachers have also introduced several ocean themed books, "Pout, Pout Fish" being a crowd favorite. One of the main projects the Robins have been working on is practicing their letters in their names. At this point in

the year, we try several projects for the Robins to at least recognize the first letter in their name.

February will consist of several fun projects that will revolve around Valentine's Day! We will also be hosting our Valentine's Day party for the Robins to participate in. We have an exciting month planned! Miss Krista, Miss Sara and Miss Jenna



ORANGE OWLS

As the weather changed around us outside it most definitely changed here inside our classroom as we ventured to the Arctic this month! From ice and snow-covered lands to both people and animals who thrive in cold weather, our classroom was immersed with all that the Arctic has to offer.

We began with the terrain with its similarities and believe it or not differences. We discussed how animals adapt and overcome some of this harsh terrain and climate with their homes and special adaptations to their bodies. We discussed such vocabulary as camouflage, blubber, fur, and shelter- all of which are important in keeping animals safe and warm in the Arctic. For the people in this cold environment, we used our past experiences and recollection to determine in order to live in such a cold place they must have very thick, sturdy, and weather appropriate clothing and shelters to survive.

Along with this, we learned they would not have food as we do because it cannot grow in cold weather. Instead, they live off the animals, little land that is useful and of course fish through ice fishing! We made our own version of ice fishing, but instead of eating our lettered fish- we recognized and recalled the letters and then spelled with them as we caught each one!

As we continued, we led our discussions towards ice. We discovered that ice is water getting so cold it turns from a liquid state,

water, to a solid state, ice! We took this knowledge and put it to the test with making our own ice-cube paint! We mixed liquid paint and water together to turn the water



to our desired colors. We then hypothesized whether or not it would stay liquid, freeze, or half freeze because of the paint inside. To some of our surprise- it all froze! We were able to take these vibrant



colored ice cubes and make whimsical masterpieces with them. We closed out the Arctic by making our own classroom igloo and miniature igloos out of sugar cubes!

We can't wait to see what surprises the rest of winter brings us!

Miss Bailey, Miss Molly and Miss Kelly

Blue Gills

Welcome back to our young Blue Gills! We are so excited to resume our play and learning! I think that I may have been more excited to be in session than anyone else! We will continue our study of Winter for the next few weeks since we are having such a great time with all of this cooperating weather. We are so glad to be back!

Miss Rhonda and Miss Jessica

Blue Dolphins

What a month for our Blue Dolphins. We are so very fortunate that they all just go with the flow. Our first couple weeks of e-learning went so well! The kids had a great routine worked out, and it was a stressless atmosphere. We used a countdown to count how many days until school was back in session. As the days trickled away there was a mild excitement brewing within the children. They were all so very excited to return to their in-person teachers. Once the 25th came along they were all giddy to get on that bus!

In other Blue Dolphins news, we have started to stay inside more with the colder temps and have taken up directed drawings for fun. We have been drawing animals such as dolphins, penguins, cows, and horses. We have a lot of talented kids here at Kid Country.

We are looking forward to what the month of February has in store for us! Miss Rhonda, Miss Donna K., Miss Jessica

