



Kid Country

CHILDCARE

www.kidcountrymanhattan.com

# CROSSINGS

NUMBER 5 VOLUME 18

MAY 2019



#### MAY BIRTHDAYS:

1st -- Parker C.  
3rd -- Levi M.  
3rd -- Miss Jessica  
4th -- Elizabeth P.  
10th -- Lily F.  
10th -- Miss Emily  
14th -- Scarlett S.  
16th -- Miles N.  
17th -- Avery W.  
19th -- Miss Jenna  
23rd -- Miss Krissy  
26th -- Lily P.  
29th -- Miss Michelle  
30th -- Bach G.  
31st -- Connor R.

#### EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH:

Miss Stacy



## Pomp & Circumstance!

Well, the time has come! Another school year has come to an end! We focus on end of year parent teacher conferences and graduation this month!

Please be sure to sign up for a parent/teacher conference! We have lots of data about your child's development that we want to share with you. In addition, we need to get your feedback to! The more we work together as a team with your child, the more successful your child will be throughout their school careers. Sign-up sheets will be posted on the front bulletin board or feel free to email me and I will sign you up.

The grand finale' of our school is year is our annual Graduation ceremony! This year's graduation will be held on Wednesday, May 22 at Wilson Creek Elementary at 7p. EVERYONE is invited to share in this special moment with these children! The children have been working hard these last few weeks on their graduation songs and learning how to bow and curtsy! A punch and cookie reception will be held immediately following the graduation ceremony – please join us and celebrate the class of 2019!

Thank you to everyone that participated in our Spring Photo Fundraiser! We added another \$600 to the Playground Equipment Fund,

bringing us to a total of \$12,600! Very impressive for our first year! THANK YOU for your continued generosity!

We also spend some time this month honoring our teachers! We have an extremely dedicated, wonderful group of professionals that not only provide early childhood education to your children every day, but also love and care for them as well! We pride ourselves on having a very loving, family atmosphere here at Kid Country, and our teachers make this happen every day. These ladies are the most positive, cooperative and fun group of teachers you could ever ask for! They also will jump in to help anyone that needs it, step up and take additional training or college course work to keep our Silver Circle designation, and they hug your children daily! Working with these ladies is truly an honor! Please join me in celebrating them this month!

As the school year comes to a close, THANK YOU for choosing Kid Country for your early childhood education needs! We appreciate each and every one of you! If you are leaving us for the summer, enjoy everything summer has to offer and we will see you back in the fall! For those staying with us, our summer is promising to be another fun-filled season, and we can't wait to share it with your children!

*Donna*

# GREEN FROGS

Cold and Snowy, Windy and Cloudy, Rainy and Stormy, and Hot and Sunny are the types of weather that the Green Frogs learned about during the month of April!

To get things started, the froggies talked all about different things that they see and use when it is cold outside. Some of the terms that they came up with about snow were white, fluffy, soft, chilly and freezing. They also discussed creating snowmen and snow angles. When asked what clothes should be worn in snowy weather, the children responded with a hat, gloves, snow pants, boots, and a scarf.

This was a great way to encourage communication while classifying and using academic vocabulary.

As we

moved onto cloudy and windy weather, the children were able to feel the wind in their hair and build solid connections. Once we had a good idea of what the wind felt like, we used the wind in our lungs to create silly characters. Each child chose a silly face that was missing one thing, HAIR!. To give our characters hair, the froggies used a straw, multi colored paint, and the wind in their lungs. The children laughed and laughed as the hair of their silly faces began to grow and move! This was a fun way to bring the word "wind" to life.

After cloudy and windy, the class moved onto rainy stormy weather. During this time the Green Frogs used grey clouds and rain drops to construct their names. Each child

was provided with rain drops and encouraged to write each letter of their name on one, and then to build their cloud. What a fun way to encourage letter recognition, handwriting skills, and fine motor skills!

Finally, the Frogs entered sunny hot weather! Each child was able to create his/her very own sun by cutting out a circle and rolling a dice to determine the number of rays on their sun! They used hand eye coordination, quantifying, and counting during this activity!

The Green Frogs had a blast with their weather study but cannot wait to see what is coming up next!

Miss Fran,  
Miss Jessica  
and Miss Kim



# YELLOW DUCKS

April was a month of celebration in the Yellow Ducks classroom. We celebrated the arrival of spring and the consistency of warmer weather. We also celebrated Week of the Young Child!

With the warmer weather, the Yellow Ducks were able to experience the outdoors for the first time this year. The teachers expanded their outside adventures by playing on the little playground and by going for walks. Playing on the little playground enhances many developmental domains such as physical, social-emotional and math concepts. Outdoor play incorporates many important learning methods as well as fresh air for each child.

In addition, the Week of the Young child was another celebration at Kid Country. This week and celebration encompasses the many benefits of early childhood education. In spirit of a child's life, the Yellow Ducks asked

each family to create a self-portrait made with paper plates. Family involvement is essential in the connection between home life and school life. Also contributing to that, the Ducks dressed up every day of the week as something different. The Ducks had a blast experiencing each new day!

Overall, this month of celebration was one for the books. As teachers, we are always so proud of the progress that the babies make throughout the year. We are excited to see what activities we can participate in during the summer months.

Miss Krista, Miss Leslie and Miss Hailey



# Blue Gills

The Week of the Young Child is a special time of year. It celebrates life's most precious gift – children. During this week, we wanted to make this celebration extra special so we provided activities and themed days to spice it up. Every day was something new and exciting. The hallway art board has our Blue Gill portraits, so check them out if you haven't already. What a fun week we had. Thank you to all who participated. We hope that your children enjoyed this special week as much as we did.

Our Study of Planets was simply out of this world! We talked about each planet separately and how they are so very different. We discussed the pros and cons of living on each planet and if life was even sustainable because of the conditions. While talking about the conditions on the other planets, the Blue Gills were able to link their previous study of weather to what they were currently learning. Did you know that Jupiter is made up of the same materials as the sun? Or that Neptune has a moon just like us and that its name is Triton?

We also took the time to find out what the surface of the different planets was like so that we could try to duplicate them on our Solar System in our room. Although seeing the planets from the Blue Gills classroom during the day wasn't possible, we talked about what kinds of tools you need to see that far away.

The children took the study to another level by building and creating their own rocket ships and lunar modules in the block area, making sure to inspect each vehicle to make sure it is ready for the right terrain. It got us thinking, and planning, and ultimately using cooperative play to get us ready for space travel. It was a great study!

Ms. Rhonda

# Blue Dolphins

The school year is finally winding down and the Blue Dolphins are itching for some warmer days! We, as a class, have been practicing turn-taking and using manners with one-another and adults. These skills are not only keys to relationships here at Kid Country, but skills that will continue through the rest of their lives.



As the Blue Dolphins engage with one another inside and out, we have encouraged talking through disagreements and listening to what each other has to say. With this, the Dolphins are recognizing each other's feelings towards different situations and what they can do together to fix them.

On the warmer days that we were able to enjoy some fresh air, the Dolphins have been running their hearts out in the sunshine! With more opportunities to head outside, we reiterated how important inclusion is in our organized sports games. For every child needs to feel as if they are part of the team!

Ms. Bailey and Ms. Stephanie

# PURPLE PARROTS

The Purple Parrots have been excited for the warm weather! We started to decorate the room with some fun spring animals and bugs made by the toddlers. The toddlers made lady bugs with paper plates, yellow paint, and dot markers. The Parrots used their fine motor skills and pincer grip to paint the plates and add the dots with the dot markers. After they dried, Ms. Kasey added eyes and antennas to display them in the room.

This month the Purple Parrots had a blast learning about dinosaurs! A couple of new dinosaur toys were added to the room for the toddlers to have fun with. We used our gross motor skills to march around the room to Laurie Berkner's song, *We are the Dinosaurs*. As a class we got to experience what it would be like to make 'dirty dinosaurs' with chocolate pudding. We also added infant cereal to our sensory bin with shovels and dinosaurs to enhance sensory play.

We wrapped up the month with spirit week for Week of the Young Child. Thank you to everyone who had fun celebrating with us! It was fun seeing everyone all decked out in their awesome gear. We had fun socializing with other friends during the dance party. The Parrots used their gross motor to dance along to the music played.

We hope the warm weather is here to stay! We can't wait for all the fun activities to do outside! Miss Stacy, Miss Kathy, and Miss Kasey



# ORANGE OWLS

After our out-of-this world study of space, the Orange Owls took a closer look at their home planet, Earth. To explore the Earth, we travelled through the seven continents and all they had to offer.

We started off in Australia and discussed their coastal architecture and wide variety of animals. We learned that stories can still be told in unique ways, such as using arm paintings and face drawings. We then traveled to Asia to learn their celebrations and celebrate together as they would. Asia is home to the greatest population of people and has very special traditions that are still practiced to this day.

Off to Europe, which overall was the most popular country traveled to! While in Europe we were able to eat in Italy, smell the vast fields of tulips in Holland, and experience the ever-changing weather!

We then soared on over to South America where we were more knowledgeable right off the bat! The vast amounts of animals and thick jungles intrigued us as we learned what it would take to trek through or even live in such a warm, wet continent. We briefly stopped in Antarctica to say hello to the walruses and penguins, learning that there are not just a few species but 17

species of penguins who call Antarctica home! To wrap up our travels we retouched on Africa, and last, but not least, explored our home, North America.



North America is much larger than we had originally thought, learning there are three countries together to form our continent. Within North America we dived deeper into the beauty the United States has to offer through its National Parks. We explored the parks throughout various states pointing out the variety of monuments, natural wonders, and differing landscapes.

In between our travels, we celebrated Week of the Young Child as well. This week was beyond anything we could have imagined! From Disney Day and having characters running through our room to enjoying time as a class with our homemade

orange smoothies! The giggles, conversations, and hugs were endless during our celebration! We were sure to remind each other how important each of us is and why we are each someone to celebrate!

Miss Bailey, Miss Melissa, Miss Molly and Miss Victoria



# RED ROBINS

Spring has finally arrived at Kid Country! The Red Robins room took advantage of the warmer days and spent every opportunity outside! We merged our lesson plans with our outdoor activities and had ample space to spread out. Using all three playgrounds to our full advantage, the Red Robins had a chance to explore different ways to play and move.

We started April out by learning all about zoo animals. The side yard gave us lots of room to spread out and build our zoos using large blocks. The Red Robins exercised their creative thinking by creating their own colorful elephants. The Red Robins used their fine motor skills to rip apart the color tissue paper of their choice and glue it to a paper plate.

The Red Robins had a blast during the Week of The Young Child. The WOYC celebrates the creativity of young children and the importance of encouraging creativity as they grow. We got

to show off our sense of creativity on wacky day, and dressed as our favorite Disney character on Monday, and we dressed for success on career day. On Friday the Red Robins showed off their Red Robins spirit by dressing all in Red.

The Red Robins ended April by learning about a few of our favorite things -- trucks, tractors, and all things transportation. Using the big playground space, the teachers created roads for the children to drive their scooters and bikes on. We waited outside to watch and cheered as our favorite garbage man, Mr. Gilly came to pick up the trash.

We had a very fun and busy month of April and we cannot wait to see what May brings! Ms. Emily, Ms. Holly, Ms. Jenna, Ms. Marissa

# Kid Calendar

Week of 5/6	Teacher Appreciation Week
Week of 5/13	Parent/Teacher Conferences
Wednesday, 5/22	Last day of Blue Gills
	GRADUATION, 7p
Monday, 5/27	CLOSED Memorial Day