



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:

- 2nd -- Madison H.
- 3rd -- Niclaus H.
- 3rd -- Lyla H.
- 5th -- Maggie R.
- 6th -- Hunter D.
- 7th -- Frank D.
- 9th -- Timmy H.
- 17th -- Bentley S.
- 18th -- Maria M.
- 19th -- Iris N.
- 22nd -- Ashton C.
- 22nd -- Maeve S.
- 25th -- Andrew S.
- 26th -- Sabrina R.
- 30th -- Miss Krista



Grandparents are Special

First, I want to say THANK YOU to everyone that has participated in our fundraisers! With your generous support we have raised just over \$18,000 since September 2018, which is just enough to purchase our new playground equipment! I have placed the order and will be setting up a spring build date soon. Thank you for continuing to come through whenever we need you! You are appreciated!

October is the month we choose to celebrate a very special bond/connection that our children experience – that is the special relationship they have with their grandparents. I can tell you that over the past 17 years of being the director here at Kid Country, the most exciting day for the children is Grandparent's Day! They absolutely LOVE having their grandparents share the school experience with them. And we absolutely love hosting them!

As reported by Kids Health, "establishing a bond with grandparents is great for kids in many ways. Grandparents can be positive role models and influences, and they can provide a sense of cultural heritage and family history. Grandparents provide their grandkids with love, have their best interests at heart, and can make them feel safe.

Grandparents also encourage a

child's healthy development. Overnight trips to Grandma's house, for example, may be less traumatic than sleepovers with peers and can help kids develop independence. Another benefit — grandparents may have lots of time to spend playing with and reading to kids. Such dedicated attention only improves a child's developmental and learning skills."

I know that my grandparents played a major role in my life growing up. I was blessed to have my grandparents in my life for 50 years. As a result, my children were able to have a special bond not only with their grandparents, by their great-grandparents as well. We share many special memories of our grandparent time. It's not always easy to get grandparent time in today's world, so anything we can do here at Kid Country to help children experience the love of a grandparent, we will do!

Our Grandparent Teas will be held during the week of October 7 and, of course, we will also have our Scholastic Book Fair during this week as well!

Please be sure our 10/14 inservice day is on your calendar. Also, don't forget that we will be closing at 5p on Halloween – Thursday, October 31. Enjoy your trick-or-treating time!

Donna

GREEN FROGS

We wrapped up our first official study in the Green Frogs room this month. As we took time to get to know one another, we also spent time getting to know our shapes and colors. Fine motor stamping fun was the focus as we began our study discussing circles and semi-circles. The Frogs had a blast hunting around the room for toys that could be used as stampers and enjoyed exploring with semi-circles to find that two semi-circles put together creates a full circle. As we moved on to squares and rectangles, the Frogs let their imaginations run wild as they participated in shape free art. Using rectangles and squares in various sizes and colors, the Frogs made robots, animals, and even people.

With the discussion of diamonds and triangles, came memories of summer kite flying for many of the Green Frogs. Using four small triangles, the children were able to create a large diamond that looked exactly like a kite! Sticky contact paper is always a favorite in the Green Frogs room and our Frog friends truly enjoyed sticking small, colorful pieces of tissue paper onto their contact paper to create beautiful sun-catcher kites to fly inside of our classroom.

The final three shapes that we discussed allowed for more fine-motor practice! We created our starry night sky stamp art after discussing the things that we see in the sky at nighttime. Our name hearts put our cutting skills to the test as the Frogs were tasked with cutting along several straight lines to separate the letters of their names. Once the letters were separated, we worked on letter identification as the Frogs were challenged

to put them back in the proper order. Finally came our favorite shape, the oval! The Green Frogs giggled with delight as they pretended to be Humpty Dumpty (the oval egg) and topple off of our block walls.

In addition to fun art projects and discussions, we have been incorporating shapes into our daily play in interest areas. In cars and blocks, the teachers are

YELLOW DUCKS

The Yellow Ducks' had a very musical September filled with a variety of musical expressions. Music is a great way for children to express themselves while utilizing their gross motor skills. The Yellow

Ducks used their upper body to explore the large floor drum.

The large floor drum benefits social skills, rhythm exploration, and movement. The children join to make sounds, feeling the vibrations, and

sharing their space. Rhythm exploration is important in development of many later academic skills such as recognizing patterns. The movements of making the sounds provides a gross motor activity to assist in the production of purposeful movements and body awareness. Another musical experience the Yellow Ducks experience daily is singing simple songs. The repetition of simple rhyming songs influences early verbal communication skills and very early foundation of reading skills. The biggest benefit of music is the smiles and fun the children experience as they express themselves by allowing their bodies to move to the music.

In transition of music the children also expressed themselves artistically through painting fall trees. Ms. Leslie guided the children through their paintings by using the technique of hand-over-hand if

encouraging the Frogs to identify the shapes they are using to build structures as well as encouraging them to use shapes in new ways. In manipulatives, the Frogs are using small shape blocks to build larger and more complex pictures and scenes.

Miss Fran, Miss Jessica, Miss Melissa, and Miss Wendy

needed. The children used their whole hand to paint colorful fall leaves using pieces of crumpled up tin foil. The new method of painting using the tin foil as their painting instrument and a whole hand and arm movements like banging on the drum allowed for a new experience. The early stages of exploration and purposeful movements are so important in the children's overall individual development.

Overall, the Yellow Ducks had a wonderful and musical month of September. We incorporated many aspects of development while sharing smiles and having fun. As a class we will continue to add to our musical experiences and explore new methods of creativity. This continuous exploration will assist in the formation of communication skills, problem-solving, and the development of original thoughts. All very important for their foundation of academic skills. We are excited for October's tricks and treats!

Ms. Emily, Ms. Leslie, and Ms. Kelly



PURPLE PARROTS

This month was full of color and mess in the Purple Parrots classroom! To best assist the Parrots in learning their colors, we encouraged them to use their fingers and hands to mix paints on the table, mix food coloring with shaving cream, and enjoy sensory bins containing materials like feathers and water beads. Using their fingers and hands to complete the mentioned activities not only builds fine motor strength but completing activities as a class teaches the toddlers how to participate constructively in



group situations. When participating constructively in a group, the toddlers practice important life-long skills such as regulating their emotions and solving social

problems by using their words.

We continued learning colors by enjoying two special snacks together: Rainbow Goldfish and Fruit Loops. During these two snacks, the toddlers practiced recognizing their colors, verbalizing the colors, and sorting the colors. Building our vocal language is a skill we are always working on as emergent speakers! Recognizing and sorting colors is a cognitive skill that is more focused on in preschool, but several of our Parrots impressed us with their emerging abilities! Coming up next, we can't wait to fully submerge ourselves into Fall! Miss Stacy, Miss Kathy and Miss Victoria

RED ROBINS

This month was filled with many little lessons that will last a lifetime in the Red Robins classroom. This month was primarily centered on working out our fine motor skills. This is an extremely important and vital age to practice these skills. We try to mix up our art projects that are done throughout the month that work different parts of the hands. These activities include painting, markers, daubers, painting with q tips, play dough and much more. With all these fine motor skill activities, it won't be long and our Red Robins will have strong enough muscles to hold pencils, crayons and eventually write!

This month also concluded our last warm month of the year. The Robins will still participate outside until the weather gets too cold to go outside. Playing outside has many, many benefits to a child's development. To spice up playing outside, the Robins took a walk around Kid Country and scavenged for nature items. In the upcoming months, we are anxiously awaiting the celebration of Halloween and all the spooky projects to come with it!

Miss Krista, Miss Kasey, Miss Jenna and Miss Victoria



Blue Dolphins

The Blue Dolphins spent the month getting back in the groove of school and fall activities. They've enjoyed reconnecting with friends they had not seen all summer and enjoying all the outside time with the gorgeous weather we've been having!

Our all-time favorite time of year is Family Fun Night! The kids really look forward to playing the different games in each room. They also enjoyed helping decorate the Center in the football theme by making either

footballs, pom poms or helmets to make our hallways festive. Being able to eat dinner with their family on the playground was a great addition this year!

Thank you to the parent volunteers that grilled up our hotdogs!

Please remember we will be going outside every day, so please make sure your child has a jacket for cooler afternoons. We are looking forward to a fun-filled and spooky October!

Miss Wendy and Miss Kim



ORANGE OWLS

The Orange Owls have started off their year down at the Kid County farm! We have taken much of our farm time to focus on our fine motor capabilities. The Owls were able to use various animals in their fine motor fun! To get hands-on as farmers do, the class was called over to the "mud pit", sand box, and to return the piggy tails to the correct piggy! They were invited to find, pick each tail up individually with tweezers, and then sort them to the correct colored pig! We have also been discussing and comparing the letters and letter sounds that were in each of our names. We also used this growing knowledge and letter recognition to go for a hunt! The chickens lost their eggs and we had to find them! So, the Owls hunted for all the missing chicken eggs labeled with the letters in their name!

Many items we use in our day-to-day life come from farms and farmers. We listed the foods that we have at both home and school and expressed those that are our favorites. It took some in depth thinking, but we were able to reason some of our favorites to milk and of course ice-cream! As a class we were able to determine cows give us milk, cheese, whipped cream, and ice cream!

The proper terminology for where the milk comes from though is our new vocabulary- utters! Since there are no real cows in sight, we made our own type of utters out of plastic gloves and white paint to be able to milk our own cows! This was a great real-life practice to see how the farmers have to be meticulous and precise to not

waste any of the milk!

As a school, we kicked off the school year with our Family Fun Night! For days we grew increasingly excited about the opportunity to play a ton of games, spend time with our families, and even eat a delicious treat! It truly is one of our favorite nights of the year and we're so happy to share it together!

Miss Bailey, Miss Molly and Miss Donna K.

Blue Gills

As we say goodbye to September, we have to thank Mother Nature for the extra nice days to spend time outside. We were able to work on a lot of our large motor skills that we won't be able to do in the coming months. We played games like Red Light Green Light, and Duck Duck Goose. We learned how to catch a ball, and then how to kick it while it was moving. We

spent time in the sandbox learning new measurement vocabulary like empty, full, and halfway. Vocabulary that could then be heard in the classroom at our discovery table. Fun times for sure!

In the classroom we did a study of "All About Me". The children were able to tell the other children all about themselves and their families. We graphed eye colors, hair colors, how many people live

in our houses, and whether or not we have pets. The kids enjoyed talking about themselves daily in front of the group, and it really helped the children to get to know their peers' names better as we started the new school year. As the month progressed, we could definitely see friendships blossom and small groups of children forming to play on a regular basis. As a whole, they love playing large group games where they are all involved, and never leave anyone out. It



was a great month of friendship!

To round out our month, we started learning about Apples. We learned how apples start as a blossom on a tree and slowly turn into a fruit. We made our guesses of if an apple would float or sink, painted with apples, and ate a wonderful apple pie dip that we made ourselves. It's been a busy yet exciting first month and we can't wait for what October brings!
Ms. Rhonda

Kid Calendar

Wednesday, 10/2	Little Caesar's Pizza PICK UP DAY
Week of 10/7	Scholastic Book Fair
Tuesday, 10/8	Grandparent Teas 9:30a Green Frogs 3:00p Yellow Ducks & Purple Parrots
Wednesday, 10/9	Grandparent Teas 9:30a Orange Owls 11:00a Blue Gills 3:00p Red Robins
Monday, 10/14	CLOSED Inservice Day
Thursday, 10/17	Fall Field Trip (Blue Gills, Orange Owls, Green Frogs)
Week of 10/21	Helping Hands Screenings
Thursday, 10/31	Halloween Parties CLOSING AT 5p
Friday, 11/1	Hair Cuts