



**Kid Country**  
**CHILDCARE**

www.kidcountrymanhattan.com

# CROSSINGS

NUMBER 11 VOLUME 17

NOVEMBER 2018

*Thankful*

**NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:**

- 2nd -- Addison C.
- 2nd -- Quinn K.
- 3rd -- Zephyr F.
- 3rd -- Lilianna C.
- 4th -- Lucy D.
- 4th -- Austin H.
- 6th -- Lucy C.
- 7th -- Louie B.
- 7th -- Molly W.
- 13th -- Miss Melissa
- 14th -- Louis S.
- 16th -- Cameron W.
- 18th -- Lillian N.
- 23rd -- Evan R.
- 25th -- Madison M.
- 25th -- D'Angelo A.
- 29th -- Miss Donna

**EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH:**

Miss Krissy



## Enjoy the Little Moments

It's November! My favorite time of year! I absolutely love this month, as it makes us take time to reflect and think about those things we are most grateful for.

I know I say this every year, but it still rings true! I am blessed to have Kid Country in my life and for all of you, the awesome families of Kid Country, that have become my extended family. Working with young children and getting to see so many truly happy faces every day is something to be grateful for! Being exposed to these little people every day has been a great reminder for me to keep my priorities straight and be thankful for all the little things in life!

Now I've had some major things happen this year that I am most definitely grateful for – getting married tops the list for sure! But I am also grateful for those little things – dinner time with the young adults my sons have grown into, enjoying a leisurely walk with my husband, and visits with my grandma. When our children are young, our lives tend to be very hectic and filled with sports and activities running from one event to the next with barely time to eat, let alone sit at the table as a family. It is easy to lose sight of those little things. I urge you to make an extra effort during this upcoming holiday season to stop, take a deep

breath and just enjoy the moment. Enjoy the little feet running down the hall, the little voice that says “mom, mom, mom” a thousand times a day, and the look of peace on their faces while they are sleeping. Make it a priority to have family dinner at the table, take a family vacation or just one day out to do something together as family. These are also the moments your children will treasure most about their childhood.

I would be remiss if I didn't also mention how thankful and blessed all of us at Kid Country are to have the amazing teachers we have watching over our children! These teachers pour their heart and soul into educating and caring for every child here! Kid Country definitely has the best early childhood educators around and I am extremely grateful for the hard work and dedication they show to me and your children every single day. Again, we are blessed!

Enjoy the fall season and the start of the holidays! Be thankful for all the big things life has provided to you this year and be grateful for all the little moments as well! Happy Thanksgiving!

*Donna*

# YELLOW DUCKS

October began with sweet visitors to the Yellow Ducks classroom. Kid Country hosted their annual Grandparents' Tea and the Yellow Ducks loved every minute of it. This event has many learning opportunities and covers many objectives through the activities the Ducks completed, along with the interactions between the babies and the grandparents. The Yellow Ducks teachers provided special Halloween stickers for the children to create a sticky masterpiece with their grandparents. By peeling and placing the stickers on the paper, it engages their fine motor skills from their pincer grasp, hand-eye coordination, and also introduces new textures.

Throughout the month of October, the Duck teachers hosted many special art activities for the Ducks to participate in. Towards the middle of the month, the Ducks created spooky ghosts and cute candy corns out of their footprints. Another fine motor engaging activity that the Ducks participated in was interacting with a real pumpkin! The Ducks played with gooey ooey insides of the pumpkin and had a blast exploring the new textures. The Halloween Party was no exception. We began the party with a fun snack that consisted of Frankenstein pudding cups! To add to the spookiness of the party, the Ducks then helped the teachers create Halloween sensory bags.

Overall, the month of October was sweet and spooky for the Yellow Ducks. We made a lot of memories captured by pictures and knowledge. The Yellow Ducks are excited to see what the holiday seasons will bring filled with more firsts and smiles! Miss Krista, Miss Hailey and Miss Leslie



# GREEN FROGS

In the month of October, the Frogs welcomed their grandparents into the classroom for a Tea. The Frogs were excited to show their grandparents the yoga poses that the Frogs had learned to perform their yoga story. The Frogs took their grandparents on a tour of our room, showing them their art and all the toys they play with every day. We ended our Tea with cookies and juice.

We also went on our first field trip and rode on the big yellow bus! Our visit to the pumpkin patch was a little cold, but that did not stop the Frogs from having a lot of fun. We jumped in a large bin of corn and bounced on a giant bubble. The Frogs enjoyed the hayrack, pumpkin and cow rides as the farmers drove the tractors in circles and up and down the hills. There were also many animals to see, including goats, cows, chickens and newborn piglets!

Our study this month was

transportation. We discussed all vehicles having to do with land, sea and air. We used our creativity and fine motor skills to create cars, trucks, boats and hot air balloons as we turned our room into a world of transportation.

We ended our month with a week of Halloween fun! We added bats, spiders and monsters to our room to get us into the spirit of the holiday. We flew around the room as witches and crawled around like spooky spiders. On Halloween, the Frogs were dressed in all types of costumes as we enjoyed games, treats and a Halloween parade! Miss Fran, Miss Wendy and Miss Jessica



# Blue Dolphins

This month in the Blue Dolphins room we were able to finish our awesome class project. Even though the kids are older, they still enjoy being able to bring out their little kid side, get dirty and stamp paint.

For the project, red, orange, yellow, and brown paint were used with apples to create fall a fall scene. The apples were used as stamps because those are fall-like as well as the colors. We also put a bundle of corn stalks on it. Check it out hanging up above the mail boxes! While we were in the fall spirit, we also discussed our fall favorites. The Blue Dolphins discussed what they liked best about fall. I think most can agree that they really enjoy the cold crisp air and the leaves falling.

Moving forward, the Dolphins will be heading into Christmas break in no time. This means that we will be doing more activities that help build up team bonding. This will benefit their future as they will learn how to help each other out and learn how to respond to one another when they need help. I am very excited to see the Dolphins working together and what the final product will be with these projects. Ms. Pam and Ms. Julie

# Blue Gills

October is always a busy month for the Blue Gills. The two things that were the biggest hits with us were our Grandparent Tea and our field trip to the pumpkin farm.

We prepared for weeks for the arrival of our grandparents. Each day we would practice the songs and hand movements to make sure we had it just right. We made the cutest little pumpkin gifts to share, and leaf crafts to go with them. Our Grandparents arrived, and we had a great time with crafts, songs, and snacks! There was a special glow in everyone's eyes that day!

Next, was our trip to Konow's Pumpkin Farm. We made sure to learn about bus safety before getting on the bus. The children all had a lot of fun in their small groups as they traveled around the various exhibits. We challenged our large motor capabilities on the giant hay playground, trying to keep our balance on the jumpy pillow, and maneuvering our way across the corn bins. We also used our senses as we traveled into the barn hearing, smelling, and touching the animals. The weather was even nice enough for a little walk in the corn maze for a few of us. With the breeze, we could hear the rustling of the stalks, and the crunch of them under our feet. Another great time was had by all.



Throughout the month, we

also discussed all things Trees to go with our study. We

learned that there are hundreds of different kinds of trees and new words like deciduous and evergreen. The children learned the life cycle of trees and how they go into a dormant phase in the winter months to survive. We ended our study of Trees by making a Tree Fruit Salad. It was so yummy!

When our Tree Study ended, we ventured into a new study of Spiders. From making webs different ways to having spider tosses, our latest study is sure to creep you out just in time for Halloween!

Ms. Rhonda and Ms. Pam



# PURPLE PARROTS

The Purple Parrots got all geared up in the Halloween spirit this month! The toddlers continued their sign language by adding "scared" and "sad" to their language skills. We also added a new song, *Five Little Pumpkins*, to develop our social skills with our classmates. The Parrots practiced working on their social skills by practicing what a ghost says.

As the cold weather hit, the Parrots got all bundled up to work on their gross motor skills outside. They loved to play games such as ring around the rosie and tag! They stayed in the Halloween spirit by rolling pumpkins down the hill and chasing after them. We also hunted ghosts around the classroom to decorate a poster.

The Purple Parrots spent plenty of time decorating the classroom for Halloween! The toddlers used their fine motor skills in many different ways to create mummies, pumpkins, ghosts, and monsters.

We transferred pieces of tape onto a cutout to create the mummies, and decorated window signs with purple and black tissue paper. The toddlers even used their pincer grip skills to paint a mummy, a jack-o-lantern, and color a Halloween sign. While coloring, the teachers asked the Parrots what color they were using, to improve our color recognition.

The toddlers were really excited waking up from nap to see a large pumpkin added to the floor of the room. The Parrots learned what color pumpkins are. We enjoyed dancing around the pumpkin together as a class. Our excitement for Halloween finally paid off as we celebrated with a classroom party and were able to see everyone's fun costumes! It was a great month in the Purple Parrots classroom!

Miss Kim, Miss Stacy, Miss Kathy, Miss Stephanie and Miss Marisa



# ORANGE OWLS

October brought us everything fall! The Orange Owls celebrated all the wonderful things that fall has to offer in a hands-on manner. We began the month with the physical and chemical changes that take place with both the weather and the foliage. We ventured on nature walks and scavenger hunts to be able to list all the changes happening around us here at Kid Country!

The most common change that the majority of us noticed was in the color of the leaves. We learned that leaves change various colors due to not only the temperature of the air, but also that the trees are not able to soak up as much heat from the sun, making them start to turn colors and become dormant for the winter. We took many opportunities to collect various fall items such as leaves, acorns, and twigs to discuss and investigate.

The Owls fine motor skills were put to the test this month! From ripping and tearing, pinching items with tweezers, and cutting various papers, the Owls did them all! The favorite of the class was being able to make all the different ghosts and ghouls to decorate our Spooktacular room! All the fine motor practice will turn into some great writing skills!

The highlight of our month was of course our field trip to Konow's Pumpkin Patch! Each of us had the opportunity to explore and play with everything that Konow's has to offer! Some of the overall top picks were the bouncy pillow, cow ride, and the adorable animals! We were fortunate enough to be able to see one day old piglets! This was a great treat for



us being as this doesn't happen often.

To close out this month, we celebrated with our Halloween party. The costumes were unique, the food was spooky, and the parade around Kid Country had the Owls beaming with excitement being able to

# RED ROBINS

The Red Robins had a very exciting and fun filled October! We started October off by hosting our Grandparent Teas. The Red Robins had a great time decorating the room and creating a gift for our grandparents. When our grandparents arrived at Kid Country we had a blast taking pictures at our photo booth, creating ripped paper art, and showing our grandparents our playground. The Red Robins loved having their grandparents come to our classroom and we hope that all the grandparents had a good time.

The weather has been nice enough to allow us to spend a lot of time outside. We went on a nature hike and collected different colored leaves to create a big class collage with. We also had the good fortune of seeing the corn field next to Kid Country be combined. The Red Robins watched the combine for at least an hour. And after the field was done, the Red Robins teachers gathered corn husks and the Red Robins used them to paint fall pictures. The Red

Robins loved painting with something other than a paint brush. They loved the extra creativity and used different fine motor skills to paint the way that they wanted to with the corn husk.

The Red Robins also carved a pumpkin and used the insides of the pumpkin to create fun October sensory bags. Before cutting the pumpkin open, we asked each Red Robin what he/she thought was inside the pumpkin. We wrote their responses down and hung them in the hallway – be sure to

show off their costumes they were so proud of!

Miss Bailey, Miss Melissa, Miss Krynne and Miss Molly

take a look and what your child thought was inside the pumpkin!

The Red Robins had a fun month and can't wait to see what is in store for them in November.

Miss Emily, Miss Holly and Miss Jenna



# Kid Calendar

Thursday, 11/1	Blue Gills Program CLOSED Pubic Schools CLOSED
Friday, 11/2	Peotone Schools CLOSED
Week of 11/5	Parent/Teacher Conferences
Wednesday, 11/7	Hair Cuts
Friday, 11/16	Manhattan Schools Early Release
Week of 11/19	Blue Gills Program CLOSED Manhattan Schools CLOSED
Tuesday, 11/20	Thanksgiving Feast
Wednesday, 11/21	Peotone Schools CLOSED
Thursday, 11/22	
and Friday, 11/23	CLOSED Happy Thanksgiving!
Saturday, 12/1	Holiday Show, 3p