

Giraffe Monthly Newsletter October, 2021



This past month has been filled with many exciting learning opportunities centered around Apples, Farm and Pumpkins. Some of our Fine Motor activities included rolling up tissue paper squares and gluing them to an apple shape; peeling the same number of stickers as the number on a dice to cover up an apple grid; using tweezers and scoops to pick up pom poms and put them in little plastic Jack o' Lantern buckets, and taking the seeds out of the carved pumpkin. Some of our S.T.E.M. activities were cutting open an apple and learning the names of the parts of an apple; weighing different sized plastic apples on a bucket scale and hammering pumpkins with golf tees. To enhance the childrens' Social Skills there were activities that involved collaboration and sharing materials. For example, there was driving tractors in paint around the table, making silly putty together, taking turns with the farm animals, barns and blocks, and making tall structures with the Duplo blocks.

Some highlights from our **CircleTimes** included playing games with bean bags, sorting farm and ocean animals by where they live, and learning the finger-play "5 Little Pumpkins Sitting on a Gate".

Books we read: Apple Farmer Annie by M. Wellington, Farmyard Jamboree by M.R. MacDonald (Barefoot Books), Jabari Jumps by G. Cornell, It's Pumpkin Time by Z.Hall, The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid Of Anything by L. Williams and The Big Pumpkin by E. Silverman.

Yoga and Calm Breathing: The children continued to enjoy taking turns manipulating the Hoberman Sphere as we took deep breaths in through our noses and out through our mouths (masks are worn). We tried standing up and flapping our arms up and down like a bird while taking breaths and also imagined we had cups of hot chocolate and used our breath to cool it off. For Yoga we practised child, squirrel, and tree poses as well as a bird pose. We tried to stand on one leg with our arms outstretched.

Music and Movement: We Learned the "Pirate" song, "Two Little Apples", "Ketchup Ketchup French Fries", "Freeze Party Dance" and the "Ladybug" Song.

THANK YOU!

Boyden for the yummy birthday snacks!

Caroline C. (Boyden's mom) for reading to us under the small tent in honor of his birthday.

Teacher Pat for sharing her "Spooky's" with us at music time.

REMINDERS

Please make sure your child is dressed for the temperature outside. Hats and mittens are advised for our chilly mornings. Labeling these items is very much appreciated!

If your child has borrowed TCW clothing please wash and return these items a.s.a.p.