



Beginnergarten News

February is finally here! Although the children enjoyed their winter studies in January, they are definitely ready to move on to something new. Throughout the month of February our themes will be Valentines and Dinosaurs. I know that the children will find this month's activities exciting!

At the beginning of the month we will explore God's love for us during our Valentine theme, along with the origins of how this holiday was begun. At the writing center, the children will play a Valentine alphabet game, Valentine alphabet bingo, a Valentine's letter sounds game, and will have stationery, envelopes, and a list of their friend's names for them to send Valentines to each other. At the sensory table the children will be exploring the alphabet by hunting for hearts with upper and lowercase letters hidden in pink packing peanuts. Our math/science area will include a Valentine grid game, Valentine counting, a candy heart sort and count activity, and candy heart graphing. During circle time, we will play games such as Mailman, Mailman; The Heart Game; and Do you know my Valentine? We will also play deliver the letters during circle time. One important skill the children will be working on is recognizing their addresses and learning how to address an envelope. Our Valentine's Day activities will be on Thursday, February 14th. Please have your child make and decorate a Valentine box for the celebration. The children always enjoy showing each other what they have created! Also, send in enough Valentines for 13 children. Please try to have the children sign their own names on their cards, but you do not have to worry about addressing the envelopes.

We will spend the rest of the month learning about dinosaurs. Our classroom will be set up with a dinosaur dig in our sensory table, dinosaur figures in the block area, and dinosaur books at the reading center. At the math/science table the children will have the opportunity to explore fossils, chart their favorite dinosaur, play a dinosaur pattern game, and sort dinosaurs by which eat plants, and which eat other dinosaurs. We will also engage in a dinosaur footprint estimation activity. At the writing center, the children will make an "If you take a T-Rex to school" class book, play a dinosaur letter matching game, and play dinosaur bingo. During circle time, we will be discussing the earth's climate, how it has changed, and what scientists think happened to the dinosaurs. We will also be learning which dinosaurs were herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores. At circle time, we will play Dino, Dino Where's Your Bone, and Dino Bone Search. During gym time, we will be playing Tar Pit Tag. Throughout this theme, we will be creating many works of art such as dinosaur eggs, nests, fossils, and volcanoes. In the spring, I would like to follow up with a field trip to Fossil Park. February looks to be a roaring good time!

