

Kindergarten News

February 22nd, 2008

Dear parents,

We hope you all had a fun and relaxing four day weekend! February and March are usually cold and snowy months, so this week we introduced The Mitten, a Ukrainian folktale about a boy who loses his *snow white mitten* in winter and the animals who find warmth inside his mitten. Through this book, we will begin to discuss the various characteristics and elements of winter and its impact on people, animals and the environment. These discussions will lead us into our next unit of study: **Antarctica!**

The Mitten

Literacy Centers:

- Reading, discussing and making text to text connections between the different versions of The Mitten.
- Looking for similarities and differences in the versions: charting the characters, making Venn diagrams of the different versions.
- Sequencing the story events into a class a book and creating their own adaptation of the The Mitten.
- Mitten Match with uppercase/lowercase letters and/or rhyming words (word families).
- Mitten Bingo focusing on site words.

Science:

- Characteristics of winter
- Observing and inquiry of an actual Hedgehog!!!
- FOSS Kit: Fabric

Math:

- Least to Most
- Interpreting graphs
- 100 Chart patterns
- Domino/Unifix Cube addition and subtraction
- Investigations math unit: Collecting, Counting and Measuring
- Exploring Time and Money

In K-CARE:

- Making The Mitten animal character masks and acting out the book with a BIG sleeping bag mitten.
- Lacing mittens.
- Sorting and matching mittens.
- Edible Hedgehogs (biscuits & pretzels)

After we finish up The Mitten centers, your children will be exploring various aspects of **Antarctica** for the next few weeks!

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- Map and globe symbols/skills
 - The 7 continents
 - Antarctica research
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REMINDERS:

*Parent/Teacher Conferences are around the corner.
We are looking forward to meeting with you over the next two weeks.