

# Kindergarten Newsletter

September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Dear parents,

We have been having a great time throughout our *All About Me* and *Classroom Community* themes this past month. You children continue to amaze us each day with all their wonderful questions and thinking. They are a great group of kiddos who are learning to work together. ☺

## Our math and literacy activities have included:

\*Math routines: attendance, counting jar and calendar

\*Patterns: creating, recording, and labeling simple and complex patterns

\*Snack Math: sorting, grouping, graphing, counting, and eating! ☺

\*Making and interpreting graphs all about us!

- Are there more boys or girls in your class?
- How do you come to school?
- What is your favorite color?

\*Finding Patterns (in literature, math, and all around us!)

\*Targeted Reading Groups focusing on Concepts About Print

\*Letter/Sound sort games

\*Creating their own mini-books on their topic of choice

\**I Can Read Listen to Me!* Song, Big Book, & individual books

\****The Birthday Cake*** A big book about: *A red cake. A yellow cake. A blue cake. A pink cake. A brown cake. A green cake. "Happy Birthday to you!"*

- Sequencing the color cakes and matching color words to the coordinating cakes.
- Decorating individual birthday cakes.
- Graphing: *What month is your birthday?*
- Retelling: whole group; small group; buddy reading

\*COLOR and SHAPE searches, graphs, collages and mini-books

\**Brown Bear, Brown Bear, what do you see?* Focus on colors and pattern in text.

.....And much more!!!

## Current/Upcoming Events...

- **PROJECT BEAR**-We welcome the Thorne Ecological Institute! Kindergarten is doing a unit of study on DECOMPOSERS!!! Our kindergarteners will have 3 interactive and hands-on science sessions. (1x week for 3 weeks)
  - Susy and Kate's classes September 21-October 7<sup>th</sup>
  - Kristen and Adriana's classes October 12-26<sup>th</sup>
- **October is FIRE SAFETY MONTH!** The firefighters will be visiting kindergarten next Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> to talk about fire safety and making a home evacuation plan.
- \*Kindergarten is going to **Anderson Farm's Pumpkin Patch to explore FALL!** Get ready for our field trip on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> (Letter and permission slip will be sent home next week!) We will need two parent volunteers per class. 😊
- **Science FOSS kit Animals 2x2!!!** We will be comparing and contrasting various specimens.
- **Math Investigations Unit 2: Counting and Comparing Numbers!**

## REMINDERS:

- Starting Next Week: **Homework** will be sent home on Tuesdays/Thursdays. Please help remind your child to return their homework the following day. Homework will focus on either math skills/number formation or literacy skills/letter formation reinforcing what we have been working on in class. Thank you for your support.
- October is almost here! Please send in **snacks** when you have a chance. We love to keep our snack cupboard well stocked. Their tummies thank you!
- Kindergarten has been working with Deb, our OT (occupational therapist), on letter formation and how to hold a writing utensil. Ask your child about how the **lobster** picks up a pencil. 😊
- Kindergarten Literacy Summit: October 12<sup>th</sup>! All Kinder teachers will have a sub this day to look at our data and focus on progress monitoring on our students.
- Please send your child to school dressed appropriately for our **CRAZY** changing Colorado weather! We want healthy kiddos!
- **Library books:** In a few weeks the kindergartners will start checking out a library book every each week. Please talk about finding a safe place to keep their book at home. They will need to return their library book by their following library day so they can check out a new book. Thank you for your help.  
Library will be during literacy block in their L1 groups:
  - Kate: Monday
  - Susy: Wednesday
  - Kristen: Thursday
  - Adriana: Friday

**Get ready for FALL! Our next thematic unit for Kindergarten is about to begin! Leaves, trees, apples, pumpkins...observing fall through our 5 senses!**

Have a fun weekend!  
Thank you again for sharing your children with us!  
**The Kinder Team** 😊