



## January Newsletter 2012

Miss Carolyn & Miss Sue

### 3 Day

Happy New Year!!! I can't believe that the New Year has begun. We have a great month planned for January. We will be finishing up our theme of "Bears" by ending with Polar Bears. Then we will dive into the world of art with a theme called "Art Appreciation". The children will be exposed to different well known artists and their preferred medium of expressing their point of view. Through open ended activities the children will be allowed to express their own point of view, not only through painting but also sculpting with clay, collage and large group activities.

On Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup> we will be having a "Show-N-Tell" day. Each child will be allowed to bring in their favorite toy from home. It doesn't have to be a holiday gift but any toy. All we ask is that either using tape or a marker that you write your child's name on their toy. In doing so it enables us to quickly identify the owner of each toy especially if there are doubles. The children will have a turn sharing their toy: ie. Where did they get it, what it does, why it's their favorite toy? Then during centers if they so choose they may take and share their toy in centers.

We are also adding a personal journal to the children's morning routine. Each child will be designing and creating a cover for their journal. Once laminated, numbered pages from 1-20 will be added. Each day of class a page number will be posted in the classroom and that will be the page for the children to work on. We will be encouraging them to take their time by creating a picture using at least 5 or more colors. Once completed the children will bring their journal to one of us where they will either tell a story about their picture or label the different elements. Then depending on their skill level we will either pick a word or have the child identify the letters in that word or help in sounding out a word for the child to write. Once that has been completed each child will then stamp the date on the page. In doing so, it will allow, not only us as teachers, to have a hand on visual but also for you as a parent. It will allow us to view your child's progress not only in their drawing skills but also with their writing ability.

In the centers we have added some new items. Up in the loft we have taken out the number fishing game and added small pieces of wood and glue. The children will be encouraged to use one large block for the base and then using glue to create a sculpture. This will be a multiple day activity. The first day will be designing, then allowing time to dry, then next day the children if they so choose will be able to color with markers or paint their sculpture. Again allowing time to dry, on the third day the children will be allowed to take their masterpiece home.

Under the loft we have taken the doll house away and added Lincoln Logs. These blocks will help them in hand-eye coordination, building and sharing skills.

Progress reports will be going home on Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. A sign-up for Parent-teacher Conferences is posted outside the classroom for Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> and Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>. You may choose either a face to face conference or a phone conference and the time that works best for you. If these dates and times are not workable with your schedule please contact us and we are willing to work out a time that works for you.

On Thursday January 19<sup>th</sup> we will be having our annual Open House from 6:00 to 7:30 PM for parents. Please join us and if you have friends or family looking for a preschool for their child please invite them as well.

Sincerely,

Miss Carolyn & Miss Sue

**Dates to Remember:**

Friday, January 6 <sup>th</sup> :	Show-N-Tell Day
Friday, January 13 <sup>th</sup> :	Blue-Rectangle Day
Monday, January 16 <sup>th</sup> :	School Closed - Martin Luther King Day
Thursday, January 19 <sup>th</sup> :	Open House for Parents

