

ISLAND PARK UFSD

UNIVERSAL PRE-K



Time for Creativity

The unit theme we explored this month was “Things that Grow.” The Emilia Reggio-inspired activity that we participated in together as a group was planting seeds of various kinds and watching our flowers and vegetables grow. From this, we learned that watering our plants and keeping them near the window helps promote their growth and that some plants grow above the soil and within the soil. We also worked independently on creating a graph to keep track of how much our plants grew.

Learning through Play

Q: While singing the song Yankee Doodle Dandy, a student questioned, “Why did Yankee Doodle call his feather macaroni?”

A: Children learned that words sometimes change meaning over time. The word macaroni has a different meaning today than it did have a few hundred years ago.

Q: While watering our classroom plants, students questioned “What would happen if we didn’t water our plants or let the sun shine on them?”

A: Children solved this problem by comparing plants growing to plants which were not. They learned that both humans and plants need certain resources to grow. If we did not have food or water, we would not be able to grow big and strong, and without water and sunlight, plants would be unable to grow.

Our Newest “Reads”

Ask your child about the facts we learned and the characters we met while reading!

- ◆ *Chrysanthemum* by Kevin Henkes
- ◆ *The Mixed Up Chameleon* by Eric Carle
- ◆ *Oso Pardo, Oso Pardo, ¿Qué Ves Ahí?* by Eric Carle
- ◆ All the sounds we know and use to help us read are A-Z.

Math Counts! We can now count to 40.

The number concepts we worked on this month include:

- ◆ **Counting** (number names to 40)
- ◆ **Operations** (understand addition as adding to and subtraction as taking from)
- ◆ **Geometry** (identify, describe, analyze, compare, and sort shapes)

Write from the Beginning

We continue to work in our Guided Reading groups. Our efforts have focused on reading our texts from left to right.



Quote of the Month

*“ No parent can
child-proof the world.
A parent's job is to
world-proof the child.”*

Doug Flanders

*Special Thank You to
all of our parents for a
wonderful year.*

*We appreciate all of
the support you've
shown the Island Park
Universal Pre-K.
Program!*

Parent Tip of the Month

- The moments when you don't rush in, when you give children a moment to solve things for themselves, are character-building moments. It's natural to want to make everything perfect, but if we do, we cheat children the chance to experience.

