

The Little Flower

News from the Coordinator

March has been a month full of new adventures here in the Little Flower. We had our first glimpse of spring, with some wonderful hours playing in our green backyard, counting crocuses and robins and early spring buds. The children were also delighted this month by stories and songs of "wee folk", the legendary leprechauns that we learned all about during our festivities for St. Patrick's Day. Four birthdays of Little Flower children added to the excitement, as we enjoyed puppet shows and cupcakes together.

Morning Music and Movement Class has also been an important time for the children. Learning new songs, playing new instruments such as rhythm sticks and drums, and moving to the beat are new skills really blossoming in the Little Flower children.

Springtime will surely bring many more learning opportunities, as we explore seeds, sprouts, blossoms, eggs and baby birds in the coming weeks.



Happy Birthday



Matthew

Sofia

Emma

Phoebe

You are 3 now!



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The Woolly Lambs

All things green and full of new life have found their way into the class of the Woolly Lambs: seeds, roots, leaves, stems and flowers, as the class learned about plants; eggs, feathers, nests and baby birds as the kids explored new animal life.

The Littlest Owl and Daisy and the Egg as well as From Egg to Chicken each tell the story of baby birds coming into this world. Both are among the favorite books of the Woolly Lambs and are frequently requested for encore readings. The Woolly Lambs are also developing an interest in letters and have learned the first initial of each of their classmates' names. Magnetic letters are a colorful way to reinforce skills. Every day you'll see the Woolly Lambs putting their fine-motor skills to use and they draw colorful pictures of the new science themes they are learning about. April will continue with all-things-spring and many more fun learning adventures together!



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The Canopy Critters

Math was the favored activity of Alex, Alison, Andrew, Anna, Darin, Evan, Nadia, Penny and Tyler this month. We made good use of the flannel board and a beautiful backdrop of springtime to add “critters” we are beginning to see this time of year. The children found pictures of yellow ducks, ladybugs, bunnies, puppies and frogs to sort and count. After counting, the corresponding numeral was added to the flannel board for each group. How do we know this was their favorite lesson? The teacher got a huge group hug at the end of class ;-). Can't top that!

We also continued our “Friendship” theme, which taught us that sharing is caring. We learned this through stories we read, such as **The Little Red Hen**, **The Rainbow Fish** and **How Do Dinosaurs Play with their Friends?** We talked about the likenesses and differences of friends in our class, which makes us all special!

Our focus during the second half of March has been on eggs, birds and nests. Alex asked, “What eggs do we eat?” While Andrew informed us he doesn't eat eggs. Nadia knew a mommy bird sits on the eggs to hatch them, Anna and Alison told us where the egg comes from to begin with. We have had an awesome month with many fun games and activities during Movement Class. Now it's all about SPRING and the constant changes we see SPRINGING forth!



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The Busy Bugs

We have a new friend in our class. Her name is Sarah and she just started. Breanna, Molly, Sophia, Gio, John, Mingcheng, Nicholas and Vincent have all made her feel welcomed. We're glad you're here, Sarah!

This month we started learning about bears. We read **Old Bear**, **Copycat Cub**, **Brown Bear** and **Teddy Bear Picnic**. We painted caves, sprinkled leaves and straw around them, and put pompom bears inside. Using pillows in Katie's Room, we made caves and made believe we were bears. We used the toy counting bears for sorting, counting and making patterns. We even came to school with our teddy bears/stuffed animals and had a teddy bear picnic. We sat on a blanket, ate goldfish crackers, and even shared them with our stuffed friends. We sang and danced to the Teddy Bear song, and learned how to go on a "Bear Hunt".

We had lots of fun on St. Patrick's Day, too! We wore greens and learned how to make shamrocks out of three hearts. We made pudding, which the leprechauns turned green. Those tricky leprechauns!



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Fun with Art

During the month of March the children at the Little Flower experimented with new art techniques, and they made two projects with the human figure.

The children were given new tools for painting, which allowed them to appreciate the different effects they could produce. One of them was painting with toy cars. They rolled the tiny cars on a tray with tempera paint, and then they rolled them over their piece of paper. The design of the tracks was amazing! Another technique that allowed for discovery was painting with small paint rollers with different grooves. They had lots of fun pressing the roller gently, or with firm hand movements, and noting the different results.

To celebrate St. Patrick's Day, the children made little shamrock people. Starting with the cutout shape of a shamrock, they drew facial features, added arms and legs, and some "accessories" to make either a boy or a girl. Then they were ready for a real challenge: drawing their own self-portraits. This is possible for young children through a technique called guided drawing. As the teacher draws every part of a person on the white board, the children follow along, drawing their own bodies and faces. These Seedlings were extremely interested and encouraged seeing that they could do it! A pastel wash technique gave their project a perfect finishing touch.

