

KM News

Week of Dec. 8-12



Mexico: Hola! This week, we traveled to Mexico on KM Airlines. The kids were very excited to board the airplane with their ticket and suitcase. They even watched an onboard movie about Mexico! We continue to read fiction and nonfiction books about the people, animals and land in Mexico. The kids enjoyed a story about a Mexican boy who wanted a sombrero, called Luis and The Sombrero. We also read a great book called Postcards From Mexico, which includes a variety of basic facts about Mexico. After focusing on the topography of Mexico, the kids created their own large Map of Mexico. They learned where the mountains, volcanoes, rainforest, desert, beaches and Mexico City are on the map. Using a key, the kids cut out symbols and glued them onto the map. I have included a picture on the website- check it out! The kids also learned all about the Mexican flag this week. They created their own Mexican flag using red, white and green paper and an eagle symbol for the center of the flag.

The kids loved talking about Mexican food-yum! We read a great story about a Mexican girl, called Tortillas for Amelia. During group time, the kids labeled Mexican food pictures with matching words. We also had fun reciting this rhyme, using a variety of Mexican foods: *Tacos, tacos- yum, yum, yum. Don't you wish that you had some? Tacos, tacos taste so fine- I could eat them all the time!* The kids also created their own Mexican Menu for our pretend Mexican Restaurant in the Imagination Center!

This week, we read a new silly sentence about **O**liver **O**ctopus. We focused on the long and short O sounds, and then the kids found words in the sentence that made each sound. This week we also filled in missing vowels in the daily newsletter.

Open Circle: During Open Circle this week, we talked about **DOUBLE Ds**. “Double Ds” is a term we use to describe behaviors that children should tell a teacher about. The Ds stand for behaviors that are **D**estructive or **D**angerous. We use this terminology to help the children understand that it is not productive or fair to tell a teacher about what other children are doing, unless the behavior is Dangerous or Destructive. We talked about how teasing IS something to tell a teacher about, since it is destructive/ hurtful to someone’s feelings. The kids shared many examples of these behaviors during our discussion. Later, we will talk about strategies for handling (non Double D) social problems independently. This is an ongoing process with lots of guidance from adults! ☺

Stay Days: This week, the kids worked on the letters C, O and G. All of these letters begin with the “magic C” and then continue to form another letter. Please have your child practice at home. During the Mon/Tues. stay days, we traveled to Mexico on KM Airlines and also played Mexican bingo. This game was a great way to expose the kids to important places, clothes, food and special events in Mexico. Later in the week, we read another non-fiction book about Mexico, and then the kids wrote a postcard to their parents. They decorated the front of the postcard with a picture about Mexico, and then told their parents one thing about Mexico.

This week, the kids played a patterning game called “Make a Train.” The object of the game was to be the first to build a patterned train with 12 cubes. We have also been practicing reading double-digit numbers, counting by tens, and counting on from a given number. We also continue to use math in purposeful ways throughout the day, such as for counting the number of days of school, calendar questions, graphing and counting the weather, and voting for various purposes (and adding up the results). We have also been counting our KM box tops collection this week. The kids put them into groups of ten, and then we counted them together in group. The total was 493!

Questions of The Week:

- ❖ What was something you learned about Mexico this week?
- ❖ Where do you think you would want to go in Mexico- the beach, mountains, rainforest, desert, or volcanoes?
- ❖ What happened when the class made predictions for the weather this week? (Whether it would rain or snow on Friday!)
- ❖ What did you do at the Art Center this week?
- ❖ Did you have something different at the Writing Center?
- ❖ What did you put in your Mexican Restaurant Menu?
- ❖ What does the Mexican flag look like?
- ❖ What was your favorite book this week?
- ❖ What was the best part of your week at school?
- ❖ Can you think of some words that begin with both O sounds?
- ❖ What was set up in the Science Center?

Have a great weekend!

Julie