



## KM News

### Week of Feb. 23-27th

This week we began our Ezra Jack Keats Author Study. Our first book was a familiar story called The Snowy Day. We talked at length about the illustrations in the story and brainstormed what Peter felt, heard, and saw during the story. The kids were very excited to work on a snowy day project with chalk, oil pastels, crayons and fabric.

Later in the week, we read another book by EJ Keats called Peter's Chair. This story is perfect for Kindergarten, since many kids know how it feels to have a new baby in the house. We talked about growing up and brainstormed things that babies can't do. Each child wrote down something that they can do now that they couldn't do when they were a baby. The kids also decorated a frame for their baby picture. The pictures will be hung in the hallway for a fun Who is Who? bulletin board. We also enjoyed a story called A Letter To Amy, which is about Peter's birthday party. This story led to a discussion about friendship, treating others with kindness, and birthday wishes. Each child made a paper birthday cake and then wrote their birthday wish on it. Throughout the week we have been talking about the months (including birthdays!) and seasons of the year. We sang Chicken Soup With Rice (each child stands proudly during his/her birthday month!) and also learned the "Months Of The Year" song.

During our literacy group times we have been working on listening to and counting sounds in words. For instance, I may say the sounds in C-U-P slowly, and ask who knows what word that makes when you put them together. Then we work on matching those sounds with letters. The next step we have been working on is replacing the first letter with another letter to make a new word. Both beginning readers and independent readers benefit from working on these skills.

During stay days this week we talked about the seasons. We read a book about seasons, talked about the characteristics of the seasons and played a season sorting game. The kids also made beautiful drawings of their favorite season for a season quilt- come see it in our hallway! The kids also worked at Literacy Stations during their stay days.

During our math block on stay days, the kids played a 3D shape guessing game during group and then with partners. The object of the game was to use descriptive/mathematical words to describe one hidden shape (choices were: cone, triangular prism, cube, sphere, pyramid, and rectangular prism) until the partner guessed the right one.

Also this week, the kids worked with partners to figure out how many different ways they could make a hexagon using pattern blocks. They found 6 different ways!

Questions of The Week:

- Can you sing the Months of The Year Song?
- What was your birthday wish?
- Can you tell me different ways to make a hexagon?
- Which EJ Keats book was your favorite?
- What is your favorite season?
- Do you know how to spell any of the new words on the Word Wall? (with, me, you, dear)

Have a great weekend!

Julie