



KM NEWS

WEEK OF MAY 4-8

This week we focused on the meadow and pond habitats. We read two versions of Over in the Meadow and then compared the two, using a venn diagram. We talked about the animals that live in and near the meadow and pond, and why those are good habitats for them. This week we also read non-fiction books about the pond and frogs. The kids enjoyed listening to the story Jump Frog Jump and trying out their own frog jumps across the carpet. Some kids can frog jump pretty far! We brainstormed other movement words that could have been used for the story, such as "hop frog hop" or "skip frog skip," and then the kids made up their own version of the story. We looked at pictures of frogs and talked about their webbed feet, skin and legs. The kids learned about the stages of transformation from tadpole to frog, and then made a story wheel to show this metamorphosis.

We have read several stories about the environment this week. After reading The Little House and The Wump World and The Empty Lot, we talked about the similar themes in each story. Ask your child about our discussion.

This week we finished all of the lowercase letters in our handwriting books and began the practice pages in the book. These books will be sent home soon, but please don't throw them out! The kids should use this book as a resource for writing letters at home.

(We are skipping the number pages since we have practiced them in our own way in class).

Some highlights of a few new Learning Center activities (not all centers are listed):

Art Center: the kids are working on a pond and meadow mural

Math Center: The kids are playing The Twos Game, The Tens Game, and a new game called The Frog Hop.

The Listening Center: The kids are listening to Going To The Zoo on tape.

Science Center: The kids are watching our aquarium every day for any living creatures (to be coming soon!) We have been talking about what living thing could be added to the tank, based on the habitat we are creating. They are watching their bean plants grow too. We are always observing something in the Science Center. This week we found a dead bee in our classroom, so the kids are taking the opportunity to look at it closely (with interest and fear) under the magnifying glass.

ABC Center: The kids are working on unscrambling 3 letter words at this center.

Special Activity: The kids enjoyed going on their spring nature walk this week. They focused on habitats during their exploration of Schofield's grounds. Thank you to all the volunteers for helping out with the nature walks!

During math time this week, the kids learned two new games: "Towers of Six" and "Make 6". Both of these games help the kids to work on combining/adding sets.

The kids also worked on a math pond story problem about frogs this week. They used manipulatives, if needed, and then recorded their solution to the problem.

Questions of The Week:

- What is in the aquarium so far?
- Is your plant growing yet? How tall is it?
- How does a frog grow?
- Have you added anything to the class mural yet?
- What was your favorite story this week?
- Who celebrated their birthday this week?