



KINDERGARTEN WEEKLY PLANS: May 9, 2016

TEACHERS: Ms. O'Leary
Mrs. Doyle

Virtue: Forgiveness, Graciousness, and Humility
Saying: "Early bird gets the worm"
Psalms: 19: 12-13 and 13: 1-3
Songs: *May* (calendar song), *I Love the Mountains*, *The Continent Song*, *Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes* (in French!), *May, Mister Sun*, *This Land is Your Land*
Poem: *Spring Song*, (from *Love's Labour's Lost*, 5.2.914-19) by William Shakespeare

I wanted to thank Jia, Tig, Aidan, May, and Mary Jo for coming into kindergarten to practice coding on the iPads last week. Working as pair programmers, the students "dropped and dragged" code blocks of directional arrows to program the bumblebee to fly through the maze, to find the flowers, to avoid traps, and to finally, get to the honey pot. Ask your child about what they like about coding on the iPads in partners.

Please feel free to send to school "cooler shoes," like sandals with backs, for your child to change into during warmer afternoons. The children will continue to need to change into PE shoes at school on Mondays and Thursdays. At recess, the metal climbing dome is a very popular activity that is open to student who are wearing sneakers or other type of PE shoes with a backs.

I also wanted to thank all of the parents who contributed food, paper products, and their time to set up and clean up for Shakespeare Day lunch last Friday. The children really enjoyed the beef stew and gingerbread. To celebrate Shakespeare, we designed colorful masks in art. I hope you were as impressed as I was when the kindergarten sang William Shakespeare's *Spring Song* sonnet at the performance assembly!

In writing and art, the students wrote and illustrated thoughtful love poems to their mothers, and then designed colorful cards. I hope you enjoyed your child's beautiful Mother's Day project and handmade bouquet of paper flowers!

In language arts, the emphasis of the phonics program continues to move from reading individual words to reading connected text (i.e. sentences and stories). There is a decrease in spelling activities, such phonics worksheets, and more time given to reading decodable books and learning Tricky Words. Ask your child what a period looks like, what it does, and what type of letter comes next in the new sentence after the period, We are learning that a sentence is about one idea, We are working on adding end marks to our weekly written assignments. Encourage your child to write a journal about the day's events or about a topic that interests him or her.

In math, we began a new unit on length and height. Measuring lengths and heights using nonstandard units paves the way not only for geometry, but also exposes children to the skill of estimation. The students learned to compare lengths of objects using the terms long, short,

longer, shorter, longest, and shortest. This week we will learn how to measure lengths and heights using nonstandard units of measurement, such as cubes and blocks.

In history and geography this week, we will begin a unit on Presidents and american symbols, and learn about the continent of North America. We will begin learning about the landmarks in the nation's capital, Washington, DC, In the coming weeks, we will learn about the Statue of Liberty and then finally Mount Rushmore. If your family has any photographs from a trip to any of these famous American landmarks, please feel free to email me and we will share your photographs with the kindergarten.

Think Spring!

Liz