

The EC3 Connection
EC3's Monthly News from the Classrooms
November 13, 2020

Ladybug/Bee Class

Christina Young, Casey Fowler, Carley O'Byrne, and Sarah Stein



The Ladybugs and Bees explored and talked a lot about fall over the past month. The children explored pumpkins: spreading glue on them, feeling their textures, rolling them, painting with them, and learning about their different colors, sizes, shapes, and weights. The teachers drew orange pumpkin faces on the large mirror in the room. As the babies lay on their tummies in front of the mirror, the teachers talked to them about the emotions of each pumpkin: sad, happy, angry, and surprised. Fall provided many opportunities for simple and fun ways to demonstrate the children's fine motor skills as they explored pumpkin goo, apple stamping, and rolling pumpkins.

Penguins/Dolphins/Seals Class

Claudia "Burger" Conley, Ada Scott, Jennifer Enterline, Amanda Brock, and Claudine Wilson

The month of October produced a great deal of growth in both older and younger toddlers in the realms of language and pretend play. Children tried on costumes and pretended to be different characters. They held pretend cooking sessions that allowed them to sing about what they were doing while acting it out. Pairing real-life action with songs and stories gives children many references to situational vocabulary and ways they can think about everyday life. Younger toddlers may not be able to express as much verbally, but they are always listening and building up their receptive language bank with words they understand and songs they love.



Teacher Feature: Ms. Amanda Brock



Ms. Amanda is the lead teacher in the Seal classroom. She has been teaching for eight years, working mostly with toddlers and infants. Amanda has an associate degree in Early Childhood Education from Lake Michigan College. She has been with EC3, and the Seal room, since June 2019. Amanda loves teaching because she gets to witness the development and growth of her students. If you walk into her classroom, you might see a lot of glitter and paint – Amanda loves to make creative art with the children. She once helped a two-year-old learn the correct grip to hold a pencil. The student really wanted to learn so they could draw. Amanda cherishes that moment as the student was super

excited. When she's not at work, Amanda is probably putting together a crockpot meal, hanging out with her family, going for a walk, or scrapbooking.

Frog Class

Mercedes Steward and Catherine Carroll

The Frogs have been having so much fun finishing fall exploration by talking about the weather. The class is now beginning to talk about winter and the weather to come. The class will soon welcome new froggy friends: Rocky Lee, Anne, and Eli. Ms. Cat and Ms. Mercedes are so excited to see the class roster increase!

Gecko Class

Julie Douglas, Tammy Epling, and Ehricka Masalkoski

October went by fast! The Geckos stayed busy getting ready for Halloween! They had a week about pumpkins and learned the different parts, opened them to explore the inside, and did a lot of creative expression on pumpkins. They also brought out the "silly monsters." The Geckos had fun with soft, fluffy monsters, finger puppet monsters, and even plastic bendable monsters. They did some fun art, decorated cookies, and talked about costumes - they even danced to the Monster Mash! In the next month they will be talking about leaves, harvest, and Thanksgiving.



Lion Class

Dani Douglas and Trayvon Speed



October was a great month exploring the fall season in the Lion Room. The children explored the leaves and their different colors and apples with the different varieties. They went on nature walks to find leaves in different sizes and colors, and sorted and enjoyed them in the room. The Lions made homemade applesauce in the crock pot. The kiddos loved helping to peel and cut the apples (with supervision) and they enjoyed it for snack. They spent a couple weeks exploring pumpkins in different ways: they painted pumpkins, melted crayons on white pumpkins, and used different tools to open pumpkins and explore the insides. For the class Halloween Party, the Lions

watched a movie and had popcorn treats while wearing their costumes. It was a blast! In November, the Lions are learning about farms and harvest time. Over the next few weeks they will be talking about Thanksgiving.



Tiger Class

Angie Mendenhall and Lindsay Simpson



The Tigers explored the beauty of Fall last month. They harvested leaves, tasted different apples to make applesauce, and carved a pumpkin and baked its seeds. The Tigers are working hard on their colors, sequencing, matching, and being as creative as they can be. In November, they will start to learn about the human body, numbers, and manners.

Bear Class

Wanda Bancroft and Sofia Stathoulia

The Bear Room has been keeping busy and having fun. The children have worked through a lot of information regarding their bodies and health. The Bears spent a week exploring their senses with some fun and unusual activities: painting while blind-folded, painting with their heads, smelling all sorts of smelly stuff, and having a taste-testing party where they even got to paint with their tongues! Halloween was different this year, but still a lot of fun for the kids.

Everyone's costumes were great. They played all sorts of games, such as bobbing for apples, pin the nose on the pumpkin, and a bit of musical pumpkins (musical chairs) just to name a few.

The Bear Room teachers have been busy preparing for parent/teacher conferences in November, and are really excited to spend time talking about how great these kids are. The teachers enjoy getting to know each and every one of them on a daily basis; their excitement to try new things is very contagious.

