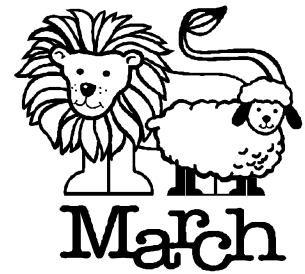


Preschool News...



Preschool has been a happy and busy place to be during the month of February. We had fun learning about shadows during the first week of February to coincide with Groundhog Day. Our next theme fit with Valentine's Day as we focused on hearts as well as post office activities. Finally, we finished the month with some President's Day activities by using money as our theme. Changing our theme as we go helps make the concepts we study new and fresh, even if we review as we go along. We keep adding more letters in our study, even as we review the letters we learned previously.

The children have certainly been absorbing a lot as we make our way through the alphabet. We have made it all the way to letter O, and we will continue on through March. Each time we learn a letter, the children have a chance to practice drawing it as well as hearing a number of words that start with that letter to familiarize them with the sound. It is a joy to hear the children asking what letter this word or that one starts with and expressing curiosity about the things we do.

The Bible story we spent the most time discussing during the month of February was the story of Zacchaeus. We sang the familiar song, which the children love. We explored different lessons from the story of Zacchaeus: Jesus loves us no matter what, Jesus wants us to love Him, and when we love Jesus we are willing to say sorry for our sins and change our ways, just as Zacchaeus did. During the last week of the month, we have worked on the story of the lost sheep. There are many lessons to learn from this story as well, but we have been reminded that Jesus loves each of us and calls us by name. We will continue to study the Lost Sheep for the next few weeks.



Spring Break is March 11 for all Deshler schools. There will be no preschool session that Friday morning. The following week I will be meeting with parents about the preschoolers' progress since conferences in the fall. We look forward to the official start of spring and the return of warmer weather. In fact, we will start the month of March with the theme of weather! Every day is an adventure with the little ones, so I'm sure we will have lots to report about that next month.

Diane Beikmann, Director