



March 2012 NEWSLETTER

Dear Families,

February was a great month with the start of the Lamb's classroom! All the kids had a good time at our Valentine's party and our next party will be our end of the year party.

In March, both the Lambs and the Lions will be learning about one of my favorite seasons, Spring! With the arrival of Spring you can really see God's handiwork all around you. One of our Bible verses is "Everything God made is beautiful" (Ecclesiastes 3:11). Though this is true for all seasons I believe it is especially true for Spring.

If you get an opportunity take a walk with your child and look at all the beautiful things God has made!

Director Kathy

What Children Learn in the Block Center

Math: Unit blocks were created by Carolyn Pratt in the late 1800s. Because of the exact mathematical proportions of the blocks, the children become aware of fractions, part/whole relationships, and of inequality by working with the various sizes, shapes and proportions of the blocks. When they work with the blocks children become aware of height: "My building is six blocks tall. Yours is four. Mine is taller." They become aware of weight. At clean up time, they practice their sorting skills by putting them away in the right baskets. Children develop, as well, a sense of width, length and depth when placing blocks in structures. Blocks can be used for measuring other areas, spaces and things in the classroom. Math essentials are learned in all block center activities.

Physical Development: Block play is an excellent way for children to develop eye-hand coordination and visual perception. Children develop an awareness of their bodies in the space around them when working with other children in the Block Center.

Science: When children create a seesaw construction with blocks, what do they learn from it? They learn about leverage-the lever and how it works-and they learn about other simple machines like the inclined plane, which includes the wedge and the ramp. Momentum is observed when a child rolls a car down a ramp. They learn about gravity when their buildings fall down. Children become aware of the physical qualities of blocks when they find that they can roll round blocks faster than square ones. They use inductive reasoning when they learn block building through trial and error. With blocks, a child uses all her mental powers-reasoning-out relationships; drawing conclusions-to invent things for herself. The Block Center is a wonderful way to introduce and to develop and extend many scientific concepts.

Social Development: Children develop a feeling of self-confidence when they work in the Block Center. They feel in charge of their own learning-empowered. They learn to cooperate, and they gain respect for others as they work with blocks. They gain confidence. When you have seen a child struggle to find a way to make one big block sit atop some of the smaller ones and finally get it done, you see a child who becomes willing to take on new challenges.

STAFF Update

The staff of Little Wellspring continues to attend classes to improve our classroom environment. Since October the staff have attended classes on: Pediatric CPR and first aid, Science, Self Regulatory Deficits in Children, Caregiving with the Brain in Mind, Feelings and Children's Behaviors and Set-up for Success. We will be attending some classes on Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports in April.

Making Little Wellspring a school that children love to come to and learn, is one of our top priorities.



Are You Creative?

We are looking for someone who would be interested in helping out with our bulletin board in the hallway. We change it monthly and some items have to stay on it, but we do have a small section that needs to be updated monthly. If you would be interested please see Director Kathy.

CLASSROOM NEEDS

- *Matchbox cars*
- *Empty food containers for our Homeliving Centers (i.e. cereal boxes, butter containers, rice boxes, etc.)*
- *Stickers*
- *Dress up clothes: Dresses, skirts, men and women's shoes, men's shirts*
- *Ride On Toys*
- *Kid's Bike Helmets*
- *Kid's clothes sizes 3T-6*
- *Tonka Trucks*

REMINDER

**If your child is ill and will not be in on their scheduled day
please call or text Director Kathy at 541.580.5450**





Lion News

LESSON UNITS

WEEK OF:

March 5th-Life on the Farm

Purpose: To help children grow in their knowledge and understanding of life on the farm and the work the farmer does; to learn about the crops that are grown and the kinds of animals that live on farms; and to become more aware that God made the animals and the plants that provide food for families.

Bible Story: Abram and Lot Worked Together

Bible Verses:

- “Everything God made was very good” (Genesis 1:31)
- “Abram did what God said” (Genesis 12:4)
- “God made every kind of animal and bird” (Genesis 2:19)
- “God will take care of us” (Numbers 14:9)
- “Give thanks to God” (Psalm 136:1)

March 12th and 19th-Jump into Spring

Purpose: To help each child become aware of the many changes that take place during springtime.

Bible Stories: People Welcomed Jesus; Zacchaeus Met Jesus

Bible Verses:

- “Everything God made is beautiful” (Ecclesiastes 3:11)
- “The flowers grow and bloom” (Song of Songs 2:12)
- “God sends the spring rain” (Jeremiah 5:24)
- “God made the clouds” (Job 36:27)
- “The birds make their nests” (Psalm 104:17)
- “God made the flowers” (Genesis 1:11)

March 26th-Communication

Purpose: To help children be aware of ways to communicate with others; to provide opportunities for children to participate in a variety of communication methods; and to help children remember Bible verses and stories.

Bible Story: Paul Wrote a Letter

Bible Verses:

- “I thank God for you” (Philemon 4)
- “Tell People about Jesus” (Acts 16:10)
- “You learn from the Bible” (2 Timothy 3:16)
- “People at church told others about Jesus” (Acts 5:42)

UNIT WORDS

- Bible
- farm
- vegetables
- food
- flower
- God
- garden
- Jesus
- listen
- pray



Lamb News

LESSON UNITS

WEEK OF:

March 5th-I Can Express My Feelings

Purpose: To help children understand that people have a variety of feelings and can express their feelings in many ways.

Bible Story: Children Sang for Jesus

Bible Verses:

- “Be kind to one another” (Ephesians 4:32)
- “God loves us” (1 John 4:10)
- “Help one another” (Galatians 5:13)
- “Jesus had friends” (Luke 2:52)
- “Jesus loves you” (John 15:12)
- “Say thank-you to God”(Psalm 136:1)

March 12th and 19th-I Can Discover Spring

Purpose: To help children become aware of the changes in their world in spring and to learn that new life and change are part of God’s plan to help everything grow.

Bible Story: God’s World in Springtime

Bible Verses:

- “The birds make their nests” (Psalm 104:17)
- “Everything god made is beautiful” (Ecclesiastes 3:11)
- “God made the birds” (Genesis 1:21)
- “God made the flowers” (Genesis 1:11)
- “Look at the wonderful things God made” (Job 37:14)
- “God made the trees” (Genesis 2:9)
- God sends the rain” (Jeremiah 5:24)

March 26th-Farmers Help Us

Purpose: To help children learn about farmers, to understand that farmers help us by growing food and caring for farm animals, and to learn that God made animals and plants that provide food for our families.

Bible Story: Rachel and the Sheep

Bible Verses:

- “God made the cows” (Genesis 1:25)
- “God made the animals” (Genesis 1:25)
- “God is good to us” (Psalm 73:1)
- “God gives food to us” (Psalm 136:25)
- “God makes the grass grow” (Psalm 104:14)
- “God sends the rain” (Jeremiah 5:24)