

The Polar Bears

Ha'Dov Lavan

Monday February 6th– Friday February 10th, 2012

Monday

Monday was the start of another fantastic week in the Polar Bear classroom! We started the week using our interpersonal skills in Havdalah while socializing with the Monkeys and Tigers. The children had a good time smelling the spices, holding the Kiddush cup and observing the flame on the braided candle that we use for Havdalah.

Next, it was off to the classroom for circle time where we used our math skills to count the number of boys, girls and all of the children in attendance in English, Hebrew and Spanish! Next the children discussed the topics of the week, Dads and Donuts and Tu B'Shevat! The children had a great time singing some wonderful Tu B'Shevat songs and looking at different parts of a tree such as the trunk, branches and leaves. After circle time the class headed off to secular music with Ms. Beth where we had a great time using a huge parachute! We used our gross motor skills to flap the parachute, run under the parachute and dance around the room with it! The children had a blast!

Monday was made even more fun when we headed back to the classroom for story time and center time! The children had a great time reading the story "A Cozy Hug" which told about all the fun things children do with their dads. In center time the children worked feverishly being the authors and illustrators of their very own book about their dads! The pages are beautiful! The children used their small muscles to grip paint brushes at the art easel, roll out play-doh using rolling pins and connecting people connectors!

Tuesday

On Tuesday the Polar Bear class had a wonderful time preparing for our dads to come to school on Monday. We started the day in circle time reading "The Daddy Book". We then discussed all the things we love to do with our dads. Next we discussed Tu B'Shevat. We learned about all the parts of a tree such as a trunk, branches, leaves and bark. We then learned about all of the things plants need to live. We learned that they need water, soil and sunlight! Next we took our cabbage plants out to the school garden where we used our gross motor skills to dig holes and plant our cabbage plants! It was so much fun!

After planting in the garden it was off to the indoor playroom where we had a great time using our interpersonal skills to socialize with the Monkeys and Tigers as well

as use our gross motor skills to run, throw balls, play ring toss and long jump! We had a blast getting our sillys out!

Once we had our fill of the indoor playroom we headed back to the classroom for center time where the children had a great time using their fine motor skills in the art center to paint clay pots for their special Dads and Donuts projects! They look so beautiful! We also used our gross motor skills to climb the steps to library, our scientific skills to use magnifying glasses in the science center, and using our imagination in housekeeping where some children made meatballs and “saucy burgers” for their classmates!

Wednesday

Wednesday was an extra special day. We started the day with gym with Coach Alisa doing some baby yoga and learning how to play T-Ball! The children had a blast using the bat and running the bases! Next it was off to the classroom for a super special snack! We made edible dirt using pudding and Oreos! We used our scientific skills to watch as the pudding mix turned from a dry substance to a wet substance, we also watched as it began to thicken into more of a solid substance than a liquid! We also used our math skills to measure out the proper amount of ingredients! The end result was delicious!

After snack we had a wonderful time during circle time where we read a special Tu B'Shevat story called “Dear Tree”. We learned from the story that plants need to be grown in soil and they start out as seeds and grow into larger plants! After singing some fun songs about plants we had a wonderful time planting our own cabbage seeds! The children filled their cups with soil, picking out seeds and planting them in cups!

Center time was next on the agenda where children did leaf rubbings in the art center, playing with rocks and magnifying glasses in the science center and reading about plants in the library! The children also had a blast using their fine motor skills to play with play-doh, snap together train tracks and build towers in the block center!

Thursday

Thursday was a great day. The children had a great time starting off the day with circle time where we reviewed classroom jobs, observed the weather and counted the number of children in the classroom. Next at snack time we made edible dirt again! The children loved using their small muscles to crush the Oreos!

After snack it was off to see Ms. Beth for secular music where the children had a blast singing, dancing and playing instruments! Once music was over we headed to the indoor playroom where the children had a great time using their interpersonal skills to

socialize with the Monkeys and Tigers! The children had a blast running, playing basketball, using exercise equipment and playing ring toss!

Center time was a fantastic time on Thursday. The children had a great time in the art center decorating the cover of their book for Dads and Donuts while using their fine motor skills. They also constructed buildings in the block center, in the art center coloring, using stamps and reading stories in the library!

Friday

The children had a great time on Friday. We started the day with circle time where the children reviewed the Shabbat blessings. We also discussed tzedakah. We learned that we give tzedakah to children and families who are less fortunate than we are. The children then went around the circle and told us what they thought someone in need may want to use our tzedakah for. Some of the answers we got were clothes, food, houses, Barbie, trains and chicken.

After circle time the children had a great time in Shabbat with Cantor Zach, Rabbi and Ms. Marcy. The children sang the blessings and gave tzedakah. After Shabbat we came back to the classroom and enjoyed a very special and yummy Shabbat snack! It was fantastic. Next it was on to the indoor playroom where the children used their gross motor skills to do the long jump, go bowling, play ring toss and play catch.

After the indoor playroom the children had a great time in center time where the children glued decorations onto their Dads and Donuts projects, using scissors, and using lacing beads.

Shabbat Shalom!

Morah Megan and Morah Allyson

Reminders: Dads and Donuts will be held Monday February 13, 2012 at 9:15 a.m. We look forward to seeing you there.

Please be sure to send your children in sneakers daily to school for the safety of our class.

Please remember that as we approach the middle of the year supplies are running low and we need to replenish on items such as gallon sized zip lock bags and baby wipes! We appreciate it!