



Curriculum

Science: Children will be investigating simple machines as part of our science curriculum. Children will have opportunities to build and experiment with pulleys, levers, wheels and axels. These devices were used in castles and are still all around us in the modern world. We will also explore simple chemical reactions when we try making potions later in the month.

Art: Children will be creating many of the things we associate with kings, queens, castles and fairytales. From crowns to magic wands, stained glass windows to brick castle walls, we will use a variety of materials and methods for making our own indoor castle and accessories. As we read about fairies and dragons, we'll move into the realm of fantasy to create dragons, unicorns and pixies. Children will use their imaginations and creative talents to bring their own fantasies to life.

Dramatic Play: Children will be transforming the block area into a castle. The children will be dressing up as knights, kings, queens, princes and princesses. Throughout the month these roles may change to more fantasy play; exploring unicorns and fairies. The large blocks will be available to create castles and draw bridges, as well as other aspects the kids decide to explore.

Literacy/Social-Emotional: We will be reading books about knights, princesses and castles. Mid-way through we will add in dragons, unicorns and fairies! We will be comparing similar stories by different authors, creating puppets shows and reenacting stories. The month will end with kids writing and drawing their own fairytales.

Music: At meeting we are singing songs about Martin Luther King, the golden rule and winter. During activity time we are playing with notes and melody. Kids will have opportunities to work on the two-note "Apple Tree Song" on recorder and piano. Kids recently voted the piano as the favorite instrument at school.

Everyone will have opportunities to get their fingers on the keys and explore melody using various instruments. We love the cajon (Cuban box drum), made for us by Maeve Dunn's grandfather. It's beautiful and sounds great.

Upcoming Dates

January 19th – Pokerpalooza 4:30-6:30

January 21st – No School / Professional Development

February 5th – Book Group 7:00 pm

February 12th – Board Meeting 7:00-8:00

Finance Meeting 8:00-9:30

February 23rd – March 5th – School Break

Gross Motor: T/Th children will be playing running games while using our imaginations to transport us into various fairytale scenarios. We will have dragon encounters and be knights riding our royal steeds. We will be playing different versions of tag and maneuver through obstacle courses as well. We will also use a variety of props including beanbags, jump ropes, and balls while having our speedy adventures moving our bodies.

MWF children are playing fairytale yoga stories. We will then have dragon encounters and be knights riding our royal steeds. At the end of the month we will enjoy using rainbow ribbons for movement and dance.

Pokerpalooza

Pokerpalooza is this Saturday, January 19th from 4:30-6:30 at the Underhill ID School with music by Super Sounds, a local DJ. Pizza is provided and families are asked to bring in a dish to share. This is a wonderful event for the whole family. Please click on the link in the email to sign up for a potluck dish.

Book Group Rescheduled

Poker Hill School's book group is reading "Small Animals" by Kim Brooks. We will now be meeting at PHS on February 5th at 7:00. If you would like to join the book group, please email Rebecca at rebeccaruess@yahoo.com.