



College of San Mateo

Mary Meta Lazarus Child Development Center

October 2013

Volume 1, Issue 1

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Small Prints

Family Fall Fest! Everyone worked up an appetite during our family Zumba session. Thanks to John who inspired us to move our feet to the rhythm of the beat!

Once we were settled with full plates of burritos, salad, and Sushi (donation from Crystal's family), we opened the special envelope and initiated conversations amongst our table mates. Families exchanged such diverse stories of how they chose their children's names. We topped off the evening by enjoying refreshing seasonal watermelon for dessert—a special thanks to Baraka, Elizabeth, Nicole C., Lisset, and Lucina for making the watermelon platters.

Thanks also to the following volunteers who worked with the staff to make the evening a success: Nicole B (the Ice Woman), Katherine & Dorey (the Balloon Enthusiasts), and the Clean-up Crew of Heidi, Chris C., Dorey, Troy, Nancy, Will, Katherine, Matthias, Yudi, Ana, Anselmo, Victor, and Itzury.



Special points of interest:

- ◆ Virtual PreK Home Activity
- ◆ Tips for Reinforcing Math at Home
- ◆ Literacy Curriculum
- ◆ Calendar of Events

Healthy Eats, Active Feet Funded by Sequoia Healthcare District's Healthy Schools Initiative

Healthy Eats, Active Feet is an early intervention program that contributes to all of our children's healthy, lifelong eating and exercise patterns before poor eating habits and sedentary behaviors are established.

Children are born to move! In order to gain confidence in their motor skills, we have developed a motor education program with the long range goal of children becoming competent movers throughout their lives.

We also provide plenty of opportunities to influence the lifelong health of the children in our program by helping them learn about nutritious fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains, low fat dairy products, and lean proteins.

ROOM A: Literacy on the Move. Introducing Mo Willems!



Photo credit: Marty Litman

After graduating from Tisch School of Arts, Willems spent a year traveling around the world drawing a cartoon every day, all of which have been published in the book *You Can Never Find a Rickshaw When it Monsoons*.

Returning to New York, he started his career as a writer and animator for *Sesame Street*, where he earned six Emmy Awards for writing during his tenure from 1993 to January 2002. During this period he also performed stand-up comedy in NYC and recorded essays for *BBC Radio* along with making a promo for *Cartoon Network* and animating the opening for a show on *Nickelodeon*.

Since 2003, Willems has authored numerous books

for young children, many of which have garnered significant critical acclaim. *The New York Times Book Review* referred to Willems as "the biggest new talent to emerge thus far in the 00's"— and to his pigeon character as "one of this decade's contributions to the pantheon of great picture book characters."

Three of Willems' books have been awarded a *Caldecott Honor*.

(Wikipedia)



Javier reading to DJ and Jordan.

Asking the time:
"How old is your watch?"
Lamees (4)

Storywalking

This past year, the focus of our staff development was on supporting dual language learners. We all participated in a series of four workshops through the San Mateo County Office of Education,"s Early Childhood Quality Improvement Project.

One amazing strategy that

we learned is called "Storywalking". Through the "Storywalking" process, we choose books to focus on for the week. Each week, we introduce new vocabulary words that we also encourage families to use at home in their conversations during the week. Some of the favorite words have been

"marvel, wise, plover, disguise, and emerge." We often hear the children using these new words in their conversations with each other! This has made our story book reading experiences more meaningful as the children are better able to understand the contents of the story.



Room A: Virtual PreK: My Collection!

Research shows that counting collections everyday improves overall school performance. Invite your child to collect 2 or 3 different kinds of small items from around the house or outdoors. Help your child sort them into groups by the type of item. Ask "Which pile has more?" Next, count them together to find out! Then, name the group. High quality mathematics education in preschool is broader than just practicing counting. Children learn math as they explore more and less, make comparisons, and create patterns.



Classroom Collection:
Eating Utensils from Our Homes

ROOM B: Literacy on the Move. Introducing Eric Carle!



Clark and Marlowe
Sharing a Reading Moment



Eric Carle Eric is an American designer, illustrator, and writer of children's books. He was born in 1929 to German immigrants Johanna and Erich Carle in Syracuse, New York. When he was six years old his mother, homesick for Germany, led the family back to Stuttgart. He was educated there and graduated from the local art school. Always homesick for America, Eric dreamed of returning one day and moved to New York City in 1952 with only \$40. There he landed a job as graphic designer in the promotion department of *The New York Times*. He was drafted into the U.S. Army during the Korean War and stationed in Germany with the Second Armored Division as a mail clerk.^[4] After discharge he returned to his old job with *The New York Times*. Later he became the art director of an advertising agency Educator and author Bill Martin Jr., noticed the illustration of a red lobster Carle had created for an advertisement and asked him to collaborate on a picture book. *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* was published by Henry Holt & Co. in 1967 and became a best-seller. This began Carle's true career; soon he was writing and illustrating his own stories. His first books as both author and illustrator were *1, 2, 3 to the Zoo* (1968) and *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, (1969).

(Wikipedia)

Staff Professional Development

On Sept. 28th, Oct. 26th, and Nov. 16th, the staff will participate in a PreK Math Content Training. We will increase our math content knowledge while engaging in meaningful and interactive activities that we can implement in our classrooms. We

will build our understanding of the essential math topics of number sense and geometry as well as how young children learn math concepts. Thanks to the San Mateo County Office of Education with their Early Learning Support Service and the STEM Center. During the summer, one of the staff also participated in a professional development early math seminar with teachers from preschools through third grade. It was a collaborative effort with UCLA and Stanford University.

Chase Game in Lower Yard:
"I too fast. I say come get me and I too fast."
Lizzy (2)



Room B: Virtual PreK: Taking the Next Big Step!



Classroom/Home Collaboration :
Measuring the Family Feet

Help your child compare different items and put them in order, estimate their sizes, and then measure to find out the length! First, trace the foot or shoe of each family member. Write the person's name inside his/her foot outline and compare the smallest to the biggest! Children learn math as they make comparisons, sort, and measure objects while exploring shapes in space. There is so much more to math than just counting!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

September/October : Parent Teacher Conferences

October 8: Fire Drill Practice w/ Children 10:30 am

**October 17: Earthquake Shake Out Drill with Children
10:17 am**

October 30th: CSM Bookstore Party for Children 11 am

October 31st: Pajama Day all day and at 12 noon

Harvest Carnival w/our Middle College Friends

November 14: Kindergarten Readiness Workshop

For Families 3:00 pm

November 4th: El Dia de los Muertos Celebration 11 am

December 5th: Family Holiday Celebration



The Newest Addition to Our Center Family: Buster!



Nada's Stencil Painting



Camila's Watercolor Painting

***"Just as the spirit of the artist is in the things the artist makes, the spirit of the child is in the things the child makes.
True education helps children discover and revel in that spirit" Friedrich Froebel
or as Nico says: "It is getting pretty impressive. Mommy is going to like this picture that I built."***