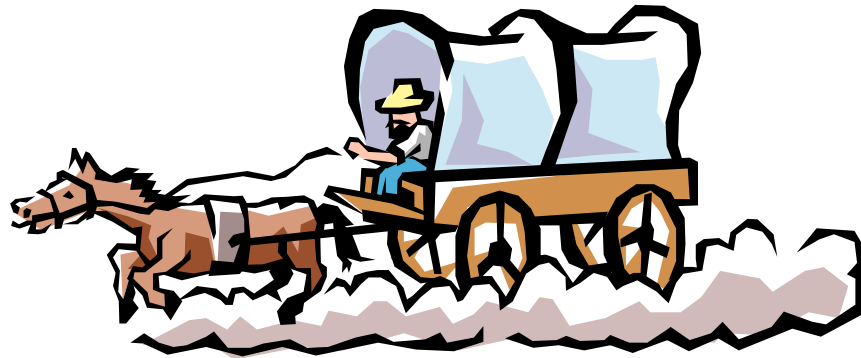


Summer Themes 2009



Week 1 May 18 – 22 Wild West (Intro to Flat Me)

Few countries in the world have a more diverse geography or history than the United States. The settling of the west is a fascinating part of American history. Imagine the first covered wagons to reach the Grand Canyon!

Special event: We planned this week in May so the children can have pony rides as our special event on Thursday morning, May 21st.

Art project: Making Native American wind catchers by cutting and lacing paper plates.

Friday movie: The American Tails – “Fievel Goes West”.

The children will also make their “flat me” a mini version of themselves that can go on vacation with you and can also be mailed to friends and relatives to take pictures of “flat me” in as many different places as possible. During the last week of summer school (August 3 – 7), the children will bring in all their pictures of flat me on vacation to share with the class. It will be a great geography lesson for everyone.

Week 2 May 26 – 29 Arizona



No study of the west would be complete without the 48th state. The children will study the history and geography of our state, make their own Arizona State flags, learn the Arizona state song and learn about the many things that make our state unique.

Special event: The Arizona Puppet Theatre will come to the school to perform “Hotel Saguaro.” All about the various animals and insects that reside in the desert.

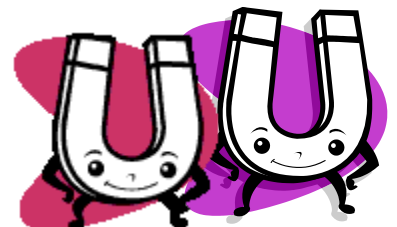
Art project: The children will make a “postcard from Arizona” collage from magazine clippings.

Week 3 June 1 – 5 Magnets – Opposites Attract

Physical science is fascinating to young children. Each class will have lots of hands on activities to learn about magnets, ferrous and non ferrous metals, the compass and how it works. Each class room will have new magnet kits and books for this week.

Art project: The children will make folded paper butterflies to illustrate symmetry.

Video: Children’s educational video “All about magnets”



Week 4 June 8 – 12 Nocturnal Animals - Who's out at Night?

We will use books, movie and classroom materials to learn about owls, bats, skunks, coyotes, opossums and other animals that are up and alert while we sleep.

Special event: The Phoenix Zoo will send a zoologist the school with some nocturnal animals for a special presentation on Thursday, June 11th.

Art project: chalk drawing on black paper to make glow in the dark animals.

Friday movie: "Stellaluna" (story of a fruit bat)

Additional video – "Kids discover Bats"



Week 5 June 15 – 19 Dr. Seuss - It's Rhyme Time!

Theodore Seuss Geisel revolutionized children's literature with his lively colorful words. This week is fun for all! We will use Dr. Seuss to teach the children about rhyming using sequence, strips and "name that book" games.

The older children will write their own rhyme and illustrate them.

Special event: One of our teachers in a Dr. Seuss costume will visit each class and read to the children.

Friday movie: "The Cat in the Hat" and "Green Eggs and Ham"

Art project: Learn to draw the Cat in the Hat!



Week 6 June 22 – 26 Neighborhood Helpers

All children are interested in firemen, policemen and garbage trucks! It takes many different careers to keep our society running smoothly and provide for the needs of our citizens. We will introduce the concept of using their gifts and talents to help others. Teachers, doctors, dentist, police officers and engineers etc. all provide a service to others.

Video: Higglytown Heroes – "Meet the heroes around us" and Popcorn Park Puppets – "Citizenship"

Art project: The children will make sponge paintings using truck/bus stencils for an airbrush effect.

Special event: Mrs. Mariann is busy arranging visits from some of our community helpers who will share information with the children.



Week 7 June 29 – July 2 Come Cook with Me – Math in a Meal

The children will learn the concepts of dry and liquid measure and the direction following skills necessary to follow a recipe while having fun cooking up some simple, child friendly dishes and treats!

Older children will try writing their own recipe for something they like to eat and putting together a class cookbook.

Video: The magic School bus – "Ready, Set, Dough"

This week we will also be talking about the history behind the 4th of July celebration and watching a video about the birth of our country.

Thursday video: "Ben and Me" – about a little mouse who tags along with Benjamin Franklin.

Art project: Veggie roller prints – using real fruits and vegetables to make painted patterns.



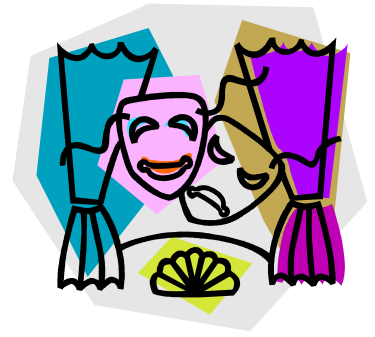
Week 8 July 6 - 10 Let's put on a Play!

We tried this theme about 3 years ago and the children loved it! The two full day classrooms will each decide on a play, practice Monday – Thursday and then perform their play on Friday for the other class. A great public speaking experience!

Each class has puppets, script and materials to use as props for their performance.

Friday video: TBA

Art project: The children will make costume masks using paint and glue to decorate them.



Week 9 July 13 July 17 Environmental Awareness

The children will learn why and how they can help take care of our earth and improve our quality of life by each committing to doing our part! Global warming is now recognized as a problem that needs immediate solutions if we are to maintain our quality of life.

Even children can help conserve and recycle.

Special visitor: Binnie Bin, a 9 foot tall walking blue recycling bin.

Art project: The children will make collages using recycled materials.

Videos:

- The Magic School Bus - "Holiday Special" (about recycling, rainforest and deserts)
- The Magic School Bus - "Getting Energized" (about alternative energy resources).



Week 10 July 20 – 24 Great Americans – People Who Make a Difference

We honor some of those Americans who helped to make the lives of others better because they saw an injustice or need and worked hard to make it right.

We hope to empower the children to believe that one person who follows his conscience and is willing to commit to a cause can make a difference.

Each class will have many biographies of famous Americans to share with the children and use role playing to learn what they can do to be a great citizen by making a difference.

Art project: crayon rubbings of US presidents.



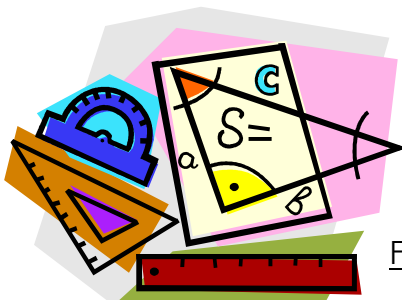
Week 11 July 27 – 31 Geometry – Angles, Angles Everywhere!

Wow! The children will love learning about polygons, curvilinear figures, rectangles, the six types of triangles, four sided figures such as parallelograms, trapezoids and rhombus and so much more! Here is a week when all our beautiful Montessori math materials can be put to good use.

The children will have a great hands on experience while they develop their mathematical mind.

Art project: The children will make abstract pictures with a variety of different sized triangles.

Friday video: TBA



Week 12 August 3 August 7 Flat Me – “Back from Vacation!”

The last week of summer session will give the children a chance to learn some geography while sharing their “Flat Me’s” summer experiences with their class.

Don’t miss the last water day for 2009, the last Friday afternoon movie for this summer and the end of summer party!

This is a low key week with lots of free choice time so everyone is ready for the start of the 2009/10 school year the following Monday.

Special Event: Jolly Roger’s Educational Magic Show

Art project: The children will bring in a potato and make Mr. Potato heads.

