

Mustangs

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Full STEAM Ahead!

Hard to believe we are so close to being half way through the year 2021! The next few months are going to be chocked full of lot of fun and exciting activities with May coming and the Pre-K classroom getting ready for graduation. The Mustangs class will be kicking things up, increasing sight words, letter recognition, and name tracing activities to help prepare them for Pre-K in June!

STEAM has always been a part of the activities we do in the Mustang's classroom, but we will be stepping things up! STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math. The next few months have so many amazing themes, and they are going to be so easy to include STEAM activities. Building our technology skills by using the computer to help research new things and learning how to work the mouse, creating blueprints of our classroom during our tools are all exciting activities to fill our construction week. Using our imagination to create masterpieces is essential in our class.

Beginning in May, our themes include Maps and Transportation. We will use a special treasure map and our awesome map reading skills to find North on a compass and count out the steps to see if we can find the buried treasure! We will zoom across the globe using Google Earth to see faraway places and amazing sights! Using our math skills to chart the different types of vehicles, we will categorize to what type of transportation each vehicle belongs. Students will create some masterpieces with different truck and car tires, use different types of shapes to create buildings and streets, and put them all together to make one big Mustang City! After we are all mapped out, we

will move into Summer Fun! Students will explore the deep sea and look for the monsters that lurk in the deepest parts of the ocean. We will use our thumb-print fireflies art and place them around the room to help us count fireflies while we learn and explore different state parks around Texas. We will use the sensory bins to find beautiful sea shells on the beach! The month of May is Asian and Pacific American Heritage month, so we will explore and learn all about these beautiful places by coloring beautiful mandalas and watching as the dancers tell a story through hula dancing. Students will explore the different islands and the types of food they eat and learn how the different islands' natives say hello and good-bye! We move on to July and American History to study where the first 13 colonies were settled and what the Early American children's days looked like. To show American pride, students will learn the President's song and practice the Pledge of Allegiance.

Blasting off into outer space, we will be learning about the solar system and create constellation with stars stickers and learn about the difference between stars and planets. The Mustangs will build a rocket ship from recycled items and see how high we can make it go! We will use Google Maps to explore the different ancient ruins of Machu Picchu in Peru! We will use the awesome Story Bots Thinkers Time Machine and go back into time and visit the dinosaurs to learn which dinosaur was the smallest one and see if we can outrun the fastest. Women's History month is in August, so we will read a story about the amazing Ruth Bader Ginsburg. She was the second female

LEARN DON'T BURN

Water painting minus the paint is a world of cool fun. Grab a bucket and fill it with water and have your child use a paint brush or sponge brush to paint away!

The movement not only encourages the use of their large motor skills but you can add to the fun of learning by calling out letters, numbers, or shapes for your child to "paint." This activity is also very cool because you can talk to your child about the science side of it. In our hot Texas weather that cold water will evaporate quickly leaving a whole new surface ripe for more art work.

Be sure to wear sunscreen and keep a towel handy for when the fun inevitably turns into a splash party!

and the first Jewish female Justice of the Supreme Court. We want to include the first female Vice President Madam Vice President Kamala Harris and the first woman in space Sally Ride to our lessons on amazing women in our country!

As spring gave way to summer, our garden got some special attention. We will continue to care for our soil as we make way for the new summer seeds and plants. We will build on our knowledge of seeds and how they grow and what we can do to help them. Taking trips to our garden helps gives the children a sense of responsibility and helps teach us respect. We go over our rules for the garden before we enter the gates. The flowers and seeds need the dirt, so the dirt stays in the flower beds. If we dig up the flowers, then the roots will not be able to grow big and strong. Our feet can hurt the stems, so our feet stay on this side of the garden. And most importantly what a flower needs to grow: water, dirt, sun and lots of love! We say good-bye to the seeds and the flowers each time we are ready to leave and blow kisses to them and say "I love you, I love you, I love you!!!"

We cannot wait to see how the children continue to learn and grow over the next few months! Thank you for all your support and love!