

# WRANGLERS

Rocking Horse Review • January - April 2024

**Happy New Year!** Our mighty Wranglers are ready and looking forward to new learning opportunities, while we also prepare to transition to the Pre-K classes in a few months. We still have tons of new learning and preparation to undertake. Through our winter months, we will explore Arctic animals and where they live, what they eat, and how their bodies stay warm in their cold climate. Then we will proceed to make a class "Arctic shadow box", which will include Arctic animals, colored and cut by the children. It's a fun way to start a conversation about what they have learned so far while putting together the box.

As the months continue, we will tackle diversity by using the "white and brown egg" experiment. This helps children know that even though we look different on the outside, we are the same on the inside. Next, we will focus on health and body by eating healthful snacks, and the importance of practicing good hygiene such as brushing our teeth, washing our hands, bathing often, washing our hair and more. It's important at this age to teach health and nutrition. If we build good life habits now, they may follow the child throughout his/her years. We will do the pepper and soap experiment to show the children how germs work, and why it is so important to wash our hands often.

Spring is one of our favorite seasons to teach because we learn about both the plant and animal life cycles through observing and exploring in our school garden. We will plant our own lima bean seeds and watch them grow daily in the classroom, while also tending to the garden daily to watch our veggies grow. We will make charts to measure and log the daily growth of our plants and guess how many days will take to see the bean sprout. We will also track how much harvest we grow. There will be lots of celebrating going on these upcoming months such as Week of the Young Child, a national holiday celebrating your awesome child and recognition for children in early learning, their families and teachers. This is a weeklong event at our school with dress-up days and celebrations. During all these fun learning weeks, we will start assessments and family-teacher conferences. We will discuss your child's progress during these meetings. This is an important time of year to see where we need to concentrate more to prepare students for their transition into Pre-K. Those scheduling a conference will receive a report card showing their child's achievements, and we will discuss future goals.

I am thrilled to see the children learn and achieve things they didn't think they could do. Thank you for letting us be able to do something we love every day.



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