



OUTER SPACE

NOVEMBER 2015



BUDDY ENJOYS PLAY DOUGH. IT IS AVAILABLE EVERY DAY TO STRENGTHEN FINGERS AND HANDS!

November at the Children's School has been surprisingly warm in temperature, making it possible for lots of outdoor play in our green spaces on campus. This natural exploration is ideal for development of the minds and bodies of the children in our care.

Indoors, we have had many conversations about space exploration. The concept of our solar system is difficult to grasp without tangible experience. Through science experiments, music and movement, and books, learning became possible! Text and pictures helped the children to

relate to the new information. We enjoyed, "Roaring Rockets" by Tony Mitton; "Zoom! Zoom! Zoom! I'm Off to the Moon!" by Dan Yaccarino; "Our Solar System" by Megan Wasp; "On the Moon" by Anna Milbourne; and "Come Back, Moon" by David Kherdian.

Both the Red Room and the Blue Room hosted attractive space stations that drew in a crowd of "astronauts" each day. In our explorations, we became familiar with vocabulary such as "gravity", "orbit", "crescent moon", and "countdown".

Taking turns with various space vehicles and sharing the dramatic play space provided ample opportunities to rehearse polite words, modeled by the teachers, rather than using demanding gestures. Way to go, three's!

We consistently sung songs about the planets and their placement in our solar system. Repeating words and activities strengthens understanding. Adding the use of various senses, such as touching ice and rocks to understand the rings of Saturn, makes a lesson come to life and last longer in our memories! What space facts do your children share?



ADRIAN IS MESMERIZED BY MRS. HRABER'S MUSIC LESSON!

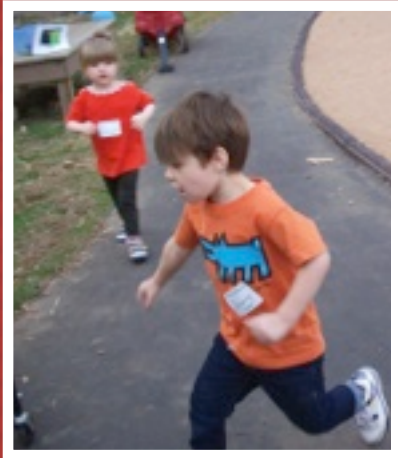


ELIJAH LOOKS OVER THE SHOULDER OF HIS FELLOW ASTRONAUT.



MAREN IS FOCUSED DURING DRAMATIC PLAY.

Earth is our place in space!



Dash is as fast as his name suggests!
He has really **BLASTED OFF!**



Jack is enjoying our outdoor classroom. It has a wonderfully cratered surface like the dusty moon.



Adrian is showing his creativity as he makes a constellation with rubberbands!



Salma gets to experiment with moon sand!



This giant bouncy ball looks like Mars!



Mrs. Hraber teaches us songs about the planets!

WE ENCOUNTER NEW THINGS EACH DAY!



It's time for snack math! Pretzel, raisin, pretzel, raisin, pretzel, raisin... it's a pattern!



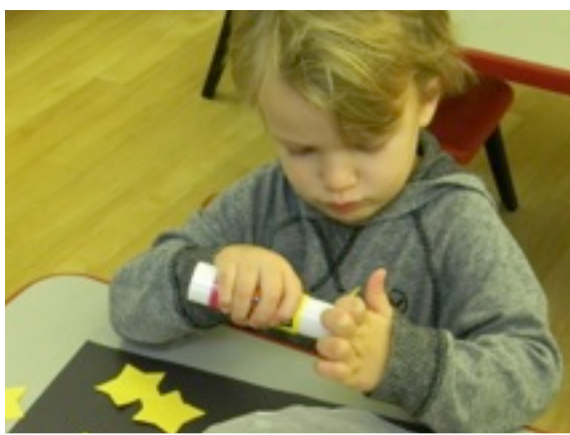
When weather does not permit us to walk to our gym building, Mars is a great alternative (AKA the Red Room!)



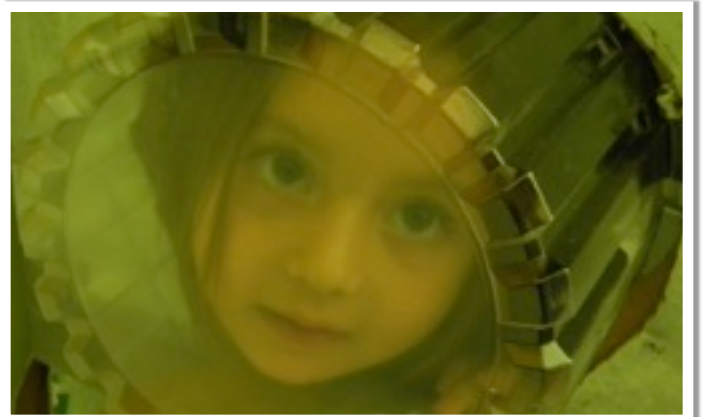
A spatial challenge about space! Go Dash!



Adrian is making use of his hand-eye coordination skills!



Elijah practices using a glue stick as he assembles his outer space "moonscape".



Salma plays "peek-a-boo" in the space station.

BECOMING INDEPENDENT



A walk to gym...



Buddy has fun with finger paint!



Maren loves to pose!



Outdoor gym when weather permits...



Jack is hard at work with play dough!

Looking ahead...



DECEMBER THEME
AUTHOR STUDY:
LEO LIONNI

WE ARE EXCITED TO
LOOK AT HIS BIO,
BOOKS, AND ART!

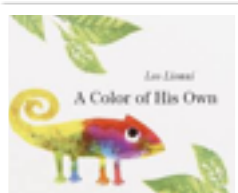


Leo Lionni always wanted to be an artist. Born in Amsterdam, he loved nature, small animals, and terrariums, which were part of his artwork later in life. Many of his children's books stemmed from his childhood interests and memories. He spent lots of time drawing at two nearby museums.

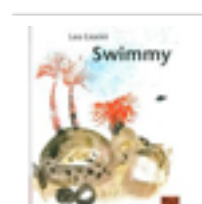
First Book: Little Blue and Little Yellow
Born: May 5, 1910
Died: October 11, 1999



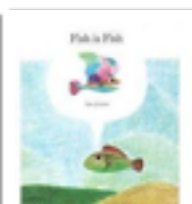
Mrs. Tomer



Mrs. Marshall



Mr. Salinetro



Mrs. Loomis