

# Teacher Tales

## 2 1/2 Year Olds Gail Salgado and Pat Dutton

February was heart and love month. We focused on loving God, our friends, and our family.

Our Valentine's paper plate bags were beautiful and we loved making and giving Valentines to our family and friends. Please see the hallway tree. The children made the hearts and they are all "hearts of love."

The children selected their "words of love," and where they wanted their hearts to be placed on and around the tree.

Our Valentine's Day class party was enjoyed by all. Thank you to the families of Kira and Tripp for our wonderful Valentine's Day party. A special thanks to Kira's mom for coordinating the celebration.

We enjoyed making and eating our "stone soup." Thank you for your contributions to our stone



soup, as well as your donations to the FBC Food Pantry.

USA Day was celebrated with "USA shakers."



We thank all who attended and hope you enjoyed our program and parade.

Our Bible verse this month was "We should love one another" (1 John 4:7). All the children can recite this verse and tell about their love for Mom, Dad, God, the Bible, and their friends. The shape of the month was a heart and the colors were red and pink.

Please check your child's school bag to ensure he/she has appropriate clothing (in case of emergency changes), pull-ups (or big girl/boy under-wear), wipes, and last minute notes.

We also put art projects in their bags to be taken home.

**Remember**, their library books should "live" in their school bag.



After all this winter weather, we are looking forward to spring!



## 3 Year Olds Kristie Morris and Glenda Rodriguez

February was a short month, but it was action packed for us. We started the month with the letter **N**. We know Jesus called His disciples by name. We worked on recognizing and writing *our* own names.

We focused on the pincher grip of a pencil when we write. Continued practice at school and at home will be helpful.

During the second week of February, we made **Stone Soup**.

Thank you for sending in your food items.

Every child tried the soup, and most gave a 'thumbs up' to liking it! During the same week we shared Stone Soup, we also learned how Jesus was able to feed 5000 people with 2 fish and 5 loaves of bread. The children were shown with 'emoji' pictures just how many that really is... starting with the number 1; then 10; then 100; then 1000; and finally 5000. After our story, the students enjoyed counting the 12 baskets of leftovers. Another Bible story we shared was about Jesus' power over nature. "B" is



for Boat where Jesus was when he calmed the storm.

Thank you to Joshua's and Liam's mom for providing us with a super and fun Valentine's Day party. And what an opportunity it offered us to discuss the letter "L," which stands for Love. The children enjoyed mixing red and white paint to make pink hearts. We also focused on loving our neighbor as we learned the story about the Good Samaritan.



Later in the month, President's Day was on the 20<sup>th</sup>, but we celebrated on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Celebrating presidents, we began to prepare for our USA Day. We made a "red, white, and blue" craft that you saw on USA Day.

I look forward to having an opportunity for a short parent/teacher conference on March 6<sup>th</sup>. The sign up sheet has been in the hall outside our classroom.

### 3 Year Olds Shawna Kirkman and Betty Hamlin

Our focus in February was on our Bible verse, "We should love one another." from John 13:34. We showed lots of love with heart shaped crafts. The children enjoyed making their Valentine bags and sharing Valentine cards with all of their friends.



Many thanks to the moms who gave us a wonderful party on both Monday and Tuesday!

We talked about sharing throughout the month of February and enjoyed sharing ingredients to make stone soup. The day we made "Stone Soup," the pot and stone were provided. The children decided the soup wouldn't taste very good with just the stone. They learned from the book Stone Soup by Ann McGovern, a timeless preschool legend retold most notably by Marcia Brown, that when each one shared an ingredient, a delicious soup could be made.



We also shared cans of soup with First Baptist Church Food Pantry to help feed others. We feel so good when we are able to help those in need, especially those right here in our community.



We spent the remainder of February learning about American presidents and our country. USA Day was special

seeing everyone dressed in red, white, and blue and singing patriotic songs.

We would like to wish Vivi a Happy Birthday this month!

March will continue to be busy as we get ready for spring. We wonder if March will come in like a lion (cold and windy) or like a lamb (warm).



We will celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday and make a kite. We will also learn about animals in the zoo.



Enjoy the rest of the winter weather.

Hopefully March will bring warm and sunny days!



### 3 Year Olds Ellen Mahan and Paulina Gabellini

February has been full of exploration. Our Bible verse was "God made the world and everything in it" Acts 17:24, so this month we focused on our Earth's geography. We examined topographic maps, comparing terrains like mountains, valleys, and deserts, rivers, lakes and oceans. We identified our seven



CONTINENTS and learned that we live in the State of Virginia, which is one of the 50 states in the U.S.A., which is part of North America. The children enjoyed creating objects from play dough to place on our world maps and we used paint to create the Rocky Mountains and Mississippi river on our U.S. map.

Leading up to our U.S.A. parade, we learned about the history of the American Flag, how the Eagle was chosen as our National Bird, and the



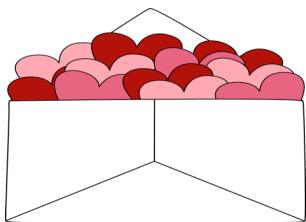
parade, we learned about the history of the American Flag, how the Eagle was chosen as our National Bird, and the

meaning of our Pledge of Allegiance. The children loved marching in the parade, and worked hard on their flying eagles and patriotic hats. Thanks to all of our parents that were able to join us for the parade.

The highlight of our geography study was to focus on each child's ANCESTRY. The children were so proud to identify the country/countries of their family's ancestry with their classmates. They shared beautiful pictures that captured some interesting facts and natural beauty of each country. At the end of the week we celebrated with an International Feast and shared food from different countries. Thank you so much parents for your support.

In our learning centers, the children practiced their scissor skills by cutting out hearts for their valentines and they worked on their writing skills with the letters "K," "A," "V," and "M."

Of course, February would not be complete without a Valentine's Day party. The children had a blast sharing their Valentines with their friend. Thanks to our wonderful moms for making the party so much fun.



In March we'll have our scheduled conferences. I look forward to meeting with each of you to discuss your child's development.



## 4 Day 4 Year Olds Becky Cloer and Victoria Nicely

What a fun and very productive month we had learning about our Earth, sun, moon and stars. God made this wonderful world and everything in it. We enjoyed making our space books, sorting "moon" rocks, and exploring "moon" sand. The children used eye droppers to explore further what water would do to the rocks and sand. We enjoyed reading many books about the moon, the Little Dipper, and day and night.



We had a wonderful visit from Peter McCorry, The One Man Band. The children really enjoyed singing and moving to his songs.

We also celebrated Valentine's Day this month. We had a fun week decorating Valentines, making gifts, and learning ways we can show love and kindness to our classmates. The Bible verse we learned was from Proverbs 17:17 which says, "A friend loves at all times."



A big 'Thank You' goes out to all the parents who helped with the Valentine's Day Party. It was a great success. The children enjoyed the games and crafts.

We enjoyed a week learning ways we can stay healthy. Staying with that same theme, we enjoyed a visit from the dentist and making toothpaste in Science. The children learned we need to brush our teeth for two minutes, and then floss. They were introduced to the food groups and enjoyed sorting food. We talked about healthy food and not so healthy food. We enjoyed a special snack of fruit salad which the children helped prepare. They have been practicing writing their names and have enjoyed "signing in" everyday. They have also enjoyed practicing their cutting skills and creating fun art projects.



The end of the month, we celebrated Presidents' Day and learned about our presidents Washington and Lincoln. Then we prepared for the USA Day parade.

Evaluations are going well. I look forward to seeing each of you at the conferences in March.



## 4 Year Olds Betty Light and Cheryl Halla

We think the Groundhog was playing tricks on us with some days feeling like winter and others definitely like spring this year. The really cold days this month reminded us that winter is still here.



We started the month of February making and painting our Lincoln's cabin float for the USA Day parade. One "lucky" child will get to take it home after parade.

Our boys and girls learned a lot about Abraham Lincoln from a story about a man who looked like him. Ask your child about him.



Also ask what Lincoln kept in his hat. In addition, we had the challenging activity of cutting out a silhouette of Lincoln. When we finished, some looked like Ronald Reagan, John Kennedy, or Teddy Roosevelt! We laughed about that! A fun activity was shining a penny in salt and vinegar. It sure was smelly, but our pennies looked like new!

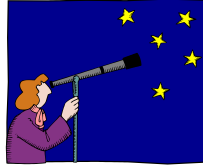


As part of our George Washington celebration, we made cherry pies. They sure were yummy!



We started our solar system unit by making the Big Dipper with stars that glowed in the

dark. It was fun to go into the bathroom (which was the darkest room we had) and see the constellations light up. The children were excited to see the Dippers, Orion, Pegasus, and Cassiopia (which looks like a W).



They especially liked getting a glow-in-the-dark star to take home. Once

again we added new words to our vocabulary such as constellations, asteroids, comets, and supernovas. We also learned that our sun is a star but not the



biggest or hottest. It was interesting to learn that the blue stars are the hottest and the red

stars are the cooler ones, but still hot. It seems opposite to what you would expect to be true. Our sun is in the middle.



We talked about the phases of the moon. It was great to have a real Lunar eclipse on Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. Luckily it was shown on TV.



I'm so glad that many children completed the two homework assignments. A BIG THANK YOU to all the parents who helped their child with the assignments. In doing so, you



sent an important message to your child about caring for their

school work.



Our two day class said a sad good-bye to Branson Woosley who moved to Tennessee. We will miss him.

The Valentine's Day parties were a great success. The children really enjoyed the crafts, food, stories, and games. Thank you, Moms, for this special day!



Stone Soup and International Snack Days provided us with delicious food. International Snack Day in our 3 day class was a chance to show our heritage



with different foods and learn about the different countries

they represented.

We ended the month with a very special treat when Ellory Dees' daddy, who is a member of the *The President's Own* marine band, performed for us with other members of the band. We thank him so much!!

On USA Day, the boys and girls had fun wearing their crowns, carrying the windsocks, and dressing as Uncle Sam, George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Betsy Ross. Our cabin float and windsocks were displayed to show our patriotism.

Next month, in March, be prepared to hear the growls of dinosaurs. This is an exciting unit, but we will need your help. A sign-up list will be outside our door. Community Helpers Week will be interesting. We will also be on the look out for Leprechauns when we go on a hunt. Another fun month is on the way!



## 4 Year Olds Kellie Westbrook, Paige Ellis, & Glenda Rodriguez

February sparkled with the sun, moon, and stars God created and had us seeing hearts,



everywhere! This month we created art inspired by the book, My Heart Is Like a Zoo authored by Michael Hall. We sorted alphabet hearts matching upper case letters with lower case letters.

We worked on letter and number recognition as well as recall. The difference? Recognition, for our purpose of learning the alphabet and numbers 0-20, is the ability to see a letter or number and name it. To develop this ability we used flash cards, magnetic letters, and puzzle pieces.



Recall, on the other hand, is the ability to pull something from your memory. Students using recall may sing the alphabet song or start reciting numbers starting from one before getting to the symbol that he/she is trying to identify.

Everyone looked so cute in their pajamas. We read the book, Llama Llama Red Pajama by Anna Dewdney. As we enjoyed our pancakes, we talked about how Mama Llama loves Baby Llama. Love was a theme running all through February. We discussed how God teaches us to be kind and to show love

to our friends and family. We celebrated Valentine's Day by wearing pink and red, and sharing Valentines with all our friends at our Valentine's Day Party.

We learned about dental care with a visit from the dentist.

We painted a tooth pearly white and talked about how we clean our teeth twice daily. The dentist explained the importance of flossing because sticky, sugary treats get stuck down in between them.



February also allowed us the opportunity to talk about loving our world. We began with the earth, and then moved to the seven continents focusing on North America. Narrowing our focus, we talked about the United States of America and the State of Virginia. We then discussed our school and home, focusing on our nation's capitol region. What a place to be for celebrating Presidents' Day and our USA Day parade. We learned about two American presidents, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. We've learned that U.S.A. stands for the United States of America and are learning about American symbols. In fact, several Uncle Sams and Lady Liberties attended our parade.



### Science with Rebecca Myers



February was full of fantastic science! We celebrated National Dental



Health Month by learning all about going to the dentist. We had a special guest from a dental office that spoke to all of the classes about how to care for



our teeth. He gave each of the students their own toothbrush, toothpaste and floss. Then, in science we looked at all the tools we might see during a dental appointment and we made our own peppermint, mint, strawberry or raspberry flavored toothpaste.

We also studied the properties of air and how important it is to life on earth. We discovered how gases can be harnessed to blow up a balloon! We combined baking soda and vinegar in a bottle and watched the releasing carbon dioxide blow up the balloon all by itself. That was amazing!



Another fun lesson was learning how to make our own butter. We talked about where milk comes from and how it gets to our home, but also how butter can be made just by shaking up heavy cream. Then, we tried our own butter on crackers. Many went back for seconds; it was so good!

Finally, we started our five senses units with the lesson on touch. The kids enjoyed guessing what was in the touch box and using different adjectives to describe if it was bumpy, smooth, hard or soft.



We had a fantastic month!

## Music with Marcia Lee



February had us moving and exercising to stay warm, packing a lot into this short month! We started the month by singing our **LOVE** songs in celebration of Valentine's Day. We included movement songs like **Joy, Joy; Jump Into The Light;** and **Abundawonderfull!** These songs kept our hearts healthy as we put our bodies into action during Music time.

**Touch Your Shoulders, Touch Your Knees; I Have a Knee, a 'Noggin', and an Elbow, Happy All the Time, and Father Abraham** were also favorites we sang.

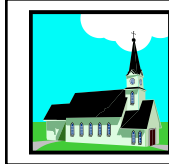
What a great time the boys and girls had getting ready for USA Day! We marched around the room playing instruments or waving flags while patriotic parade music boomed from the speakers. We proudly sang songs like **Twinkle, Twinkle 50**



**Stars, Wave, Wave, Wave the Flag,** and (the children's favorite), **Give Three Cheers for the USA!** We are in a patriotic spirit now!

In March, we look forward to singing about leprechauns, kites, the wind that God sends,

and that famous Irish missionary, St. Patrick.



## Chapel with Marcia Lee

This month in Chapel we discussed **LOVE**. Throughout the month, we celebrated **love** of family, **love** of friends, **love** of country, and most especially, **love** of God.

The first lesson we shared in Chapel time during February was about how it is important for us to "drink in' God's love." We are encouraged to 'drink in' and 'fill up' with God's and Jesus' love by reading about His promises in the Bible. Luke 10:27 tells us ...**Love the Lord with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and Love your neighbor as yourself.**" Each student was given a heart shaped straw to wash and then be reminded to "drink in" God's love as they use it at home.

Another important lesson we learned in Chapel was **"Be kind to one another."** from Ephesians 4:32. The story of the Good Samaritan was told.

How inspiring it was for the children to realize that this man stopped to help a perfect stranger, soothing his wounds, getting medical help for him,



and even paying for a room for him to stay in an inn.

The children were each given a heart shaped paper. Our assignment was to try very hard to be kind to others so as not to "wrinkle their hearts." We are trying to see how long each heart can stay without wrinkles. It is our goal at FBCDS to give children the tools to help them make wise choices and decisions, maintain a healthy body and mind, and learn to treat others as fairly as they would like to be treated. This is what God expects of us.

At the end of the month, we prepared for USA Day. We were



excited to celebrate our freedom, including the freedom to worship God. We recited the pledge to the American flag and the pledge to the Christian flag. These flags make us proud! We were certainly "bubbling over" with patriotism by the time we dressed in red, white, and blue and paraded around the gym in celebration of our great country! Our Bible verse was from **2nd Chronicles 7:14**, and said **"If my people...will pray, I will forgive their sins and heal their land."**





## FBCDS in 2017-2018

If you or any of your friends are interested in registering a child at FBCDS for the 2017-2018 school year, all that is needed is the completed Registration Form and the Registration Fee (\$85). There are limited availabilities at the current time and some classes are already full. Please come by the Day School office to secure a spot soon.



# Pre-School

