

Teacher Tales

2 1/2 Year Olds Gail Salgado and Pat Dutton

March came in like a "lion" so the children made "Paper Plate Lions" to start the month. We celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday



with "green eggs and ham" for a snack, and celebrated St. Patrick's Day by making beautiful



shamrock pasta necklaces.



The children made kites, and loved flying them in the courtyard. The



beginning of spring was also celebrated by making cherry blossom trees and butterflies.

Our Bible verse this month was "God causes His wind to blow" (Psalms 147:18). Our shape for the month was a diamond (kite shape) and the colors were green and yellow.



We continue working on our "potty" skills, our alphabet, numbers from 0-10, primary colors, primary shapes, our prayers, and pledges to the American Flag, to the Christian Flag, and to the Bible. We are also working on our calendar (days of the week and months of the year), and our weather report! The children have progressed so much intellectually and socially.



Please continue to check your child's bag daily for crafts, information being sent home, the library book, and appropriate clothing, including pull-ups, wipes, etc.

We celebrated two birthdays in March. Happy Birthday to Joahn and Johnny! You are big 3 year olds now!



3 Year Olds Kristie Morris and Glenda Rodriguez

What a fun month March was! We started the month celebrating two birthdays: Zoe's and Dr. Seuss's. Tasting the green eggs and ham (*and* eating doughnuts) was yummy!



I enjoyed meeting with all the parents at the Parent/Teacher conferences. It was nice to sing the praises of your sweet children. They are all so unique, each adding their own "element" to our class.

The children worked hard on their "Brown Bear" books, emphasizing the sense of sight through vibrant colors. Did your child read his/hers to you? Focusing on the sense of sight,

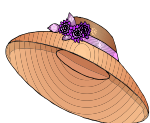


we learned about Jesus' power to heal the blind. We continued studying our senses by playing with chocolate, cherry, and lemon-scented play dough, tasting different flavors, hearing mystery noises, and touching mystery objects.

We enjoyed our Community Helpers week, learning how Jesus was a community helper, and a servant of all. We learned how we can be a servant too. We LOVED the Fire Fighters' visit. It was fun to see the fireman in all his gear, but best of all we got to see the FIRETRUCK!

The last week of March was **OPPOSITE** week. We discussed how in March, our crazy "opposite" weather typically comes in like a **lion**, but goes out like a **lamb**. (This may be up for discussion this year.)

As March came to a close, we thank you for your help making Easter bonnets and ties for our upcoming parade. The children will certainly look spectacular in them!



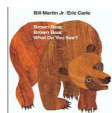
3 Year Olds Shawna Kirkman and Betty Hamlin

At the beginning of March, the children celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday by making green eggs and ham. We are proud to say that most of the children tried the snack and many had seconds.



We learned that the weather in March gives us either a "lion" or "lamb" day. Each day the weather helper would decide what kind of day it was and if we could play outside.

The children love to look at books, and Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do



You See? by Bill Martin, Jr. is always a favorite. Each child made his/her own book, and hopefully have been reading it to you at home.



We learned about community helpers in between the snow storm, and had a visit from the Firefighters and Anna's mom who is a dentist.



We hope everyone enjoyed Community Helpers week and playing in the snow.

We ended March by learning about the animals in the zoo. The children enjoyed the crafts, songs and activities with the zoo animals. A favorite was making their very own shirt with zoo stamps!

We had several birthdays in March. Happy Birthday to Gideon, Isaac, Ally and Sasha! We would also like to welcome Ellie to our Tue/Thur Class!

April will be a very busy month as we celebrate Easter, learn about Noah's Ark and the rainbow, and the animals on the farm!

4 Year Olds Ellen Mahan and Paulina Gabellini

Happy spring everyone! Since March was reading month **and** Dr. Seuss's birthday, we began the month celebrating books and reading. The children brought in their favorite books



from home and shared them during a special show & tell. They learned that fiction means a story that is not true, that an author is the person who wrote the book, and an illustrator paints or draws the pictures. We explored the concept of opposites and learned that rhyming words end in sounds that are similar.



Next, we studied the color wheel. The children used paint to discover how other colors are created by combining the primary colors red, blue and yellow to get the secondary colors orange, green and purple. Then we mixed up homemade play dough to discover a world of different colors and tie dyed T-Shirts to make colorful pillows as unique as our children.

After exploring the art of color, we focused on music. The children learned the difference between string instruments, wind and brass instruments, and percussion. We watched videos of different professional musicians, created our own tambourines and shakers, and made our own music.

During the month, our school celebrated Community Helpers week. The children had a chance to sing and dance with Sly Samudre, Worship and Music Leader for FBCS, and learn about the job of a Pastor from Reverend Jason Mitchell of FBCS. We had an awesome time



at the Fire and Safety puppet show where a real fireman dressed up in his "gear" and other firemen showed the children their cool fire truck. But the highlight of Community Helpers week for our class was a visit from Mr. Curtis, Nolan's



father, who is a Criminal Investigator.



Thank you, Mr. Curtis for taking the time to come share your exciting job with our children.

Next month we will celebrate Easter. After Spring Break we look forward to beginning our Ocean Series. Exciting times are ahead!

4 Year Olds Betty Light and Cheryl Halla

March came in with a mix of weather. The March lions we made fit in with the cold, windy, and snowy days. The big snow day was a real surprise after experiencing spring-like days.

We certainly had a great time with our Dinosaur unit. I'm sure you heard the catchy songs

about Stegosaurus, and Triceratops. Their favorite

was the

"Mamasaurus Song"

that ended with

"the lady who was chewing bubblegum." This always filled the children with laughter. Our "BIG" project was the stuffed dinosaurs. A SUPER BIG



THANKS to all the moms for their help tracing, cutting, sewing, and stuffing. The children were so happy when they saw their finished project. They proudly carried them from room to room including the church office to show them off. This will be a preschool project they will long remember.



The shoebox dioramas turned out great! The children liked adding a volcano with red and gold "lava." An exciting time came when we had a dinosaur dig. Each child had fun discovering a dinosaur in the sand and adding it to his/her diorama.

Each day was packed full with many more dinosaur crafts, puzzles, games, stories, and even a cooking activity. Each child made a yummy



dinosaur cookie. Each one especially enjoyed biting off the head as he/she pretended to be a T-Rex.

We did manage to squeeze in some special St. Patrick's Day activities which included listening to Irish stories, making a Leprechaun's head, and eating green shamrock cookies. The exciting

project was going through the halls searching for Leprechauns. Each child traded his/her Leprechaun for a shiny green coin.

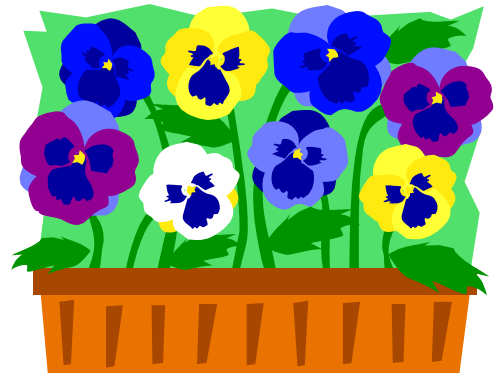


The visits of the Community Helpers provided us with many interesting facts about their jobs and a close up experience with the firemen and their truck.



At the end of this month, we were busy preparing for Easter. The children are looking forward to our Easter parties and wearing their hats and ties in the parade.

Spring is definitely in the air. I'm certain April will provide us with more warm days for the children to enjoy. Hurrah for spring!



4 Year Olds 4 Day Class Becky Cloer and Victoria Nicely

During March we thoroughly enjoyed learning about dinosaurs, studying herbivores (plant eaters), carnivores (meat eaters) and omnivores

(who ate plants and meat). We rediscovered familiar dinosaurs and learned about some new ones. We



enjoyed pretending to be paleontologists while exploring fossils. Discovering fossils with our magnifying glasses and flashlights, we also enjoyed digging those fossils out.



We celebrated St. Patrick's Day by learning Patrick was a real missionary in Ireland. He used the 3 leaf clover (shamrock) to tell people about God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

We enjoyed our PJ and Pancake Day. The



children helped make the pancakes, and listened well to a fun story about too many pancakes! A



FAVORITE book was In a Peoples House by Dr Seuss.

Community Helpers Week really interested the children. We learned about the different groups of people that help make our community great. We also learned about the Church leaders and how they help the community. Pastor Jason gave a Chapel message and Pastor Sly had us moving and singing with fun music. It was great hearing how we are God's masterpieces

and we each have unique gifts and abilities to help others. We had fun, too, playing in our Vet clinic, caring for stuffed animals. In addition, we had a post office

where the children enjoyed writing letters



and then delivering mail to each other.

The month ended with a study of the weather, learning about the water cycle, clouds, rain and the wind. God has provided so much for us to appreciate.

Thank you for helping the children as we prepared for the upcoming Easter party and parade. It was a pleasure working with you as we constructed Easter ties and bonnets to get ready to celebrate Easter and God's gift of eternal life.



We are really looking forward to making our pond pillows during our upcoming



pond unit. Stamping on the pillow God's creatures that live in and around the pond will be exciting!

April may bring showers, but it will also bring frogs, toads, turtles, and snakes as we learn about pond life that God created. We are looking forward to many exciting events in April. Some of these include a visit from a Christian magician, Hidden Pond, and Ponies Plus.



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

A cat in a hat, some green eggs and ham along with

Lorax welcomed the month of March. Those were just a few of the characters from some of our favorite Dr. Seuss



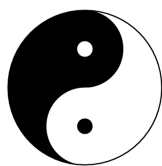
books. Due to the cadence and rhyming of the text, children can more easily guess the last word on each page without even needing to read it. This builds confidence as they learn to read. We took two letter sounds that we have learned and made the word at. Then we explored how adding other letters to the beginning can make our own rhyming words. In doing this, we discovered the words **cat, sat, hat, mat, and bat**. March was a month for rhyming. I encourage you to play a rhyming game with your child and see how many rhyming words you can think



of. We talked about reading and writing from the top to the bottom and from the left to the right of the page.

Along with our rhyming, we have explored opposites. For

instance, everyone looked fabulous in their black and white outfits on our color day.



This visual contrast helped the children understand that opposites are exactly different.

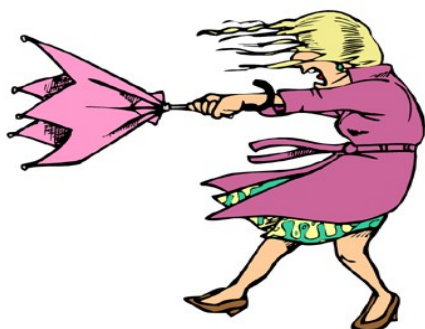
We have been working in the classroom on the sounds of each letter of the alphabet. In our letter worksheet, we used fingers to practice a good pencil grip as well as scissor skills.

Our **Community Helpers and Transportation Units** have also allowed us the opportunity to practice fine motor skills by tearing small pieces of red, yellow, and green construction paper to make our traffic light



artwork.

We concluded our month with a March weather unit. Your children have learned about how the wind blows. It can be 'full of tricks today,



like blowing daddy's hat away, or chasing our paper down the street, almost blowing us off our feet. It can make trees and bushes dance, just listen to it howl and prance.'

We certainly want to thank you for helping your child create a fabulous

Easter bonnet or tie. We cannot wait to see each one wearing them in the Easter parade following the Easter parties in April.



It was a pleasure to meet with you at our conferences. We have really enjoyed working with you and your 4 year old this year.



April will be a month filled with spring fun. We look forward to a visit from Hidden Pond and Ponies Plus as well as the arrival of the caterpillars. This is time of year when we see so many things come alive again. As Easter approaches, we will celebrate our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ's resurrection and it will be a delight to share it with you and your child. Happy Easter!

Happy Easter



Science with Rebecca Myers

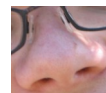
March was all about our five senses. We started with the sense of touch. We played a game using a touch box.

The students took turns reaching in and describing what they felt. They used vocabulary such as, squishy, bumpy, soft, fuzzy, hard or smooth. Then, we learned about the sense of sight and how our eyes see. We did an experiment using skittles and warm water on a plate and



watched a beautiful rainbow form! The next sense we explored was the

sense of sound. We identified different musical instruments and animal sounds. All our children have a very keen sense of hearing! Lastly, we explored our sense of taste and smell together because one does not work well without the other. We learned how our tongues and taste buds work as well as how our nose smells. Students tested these senses by identifying different smells such as cinnamon, orange and peppermint in secret containers and tastes, such as sugar water, salt water, lemon juice, bitter chocolate and sweet tarts! Yum!



Music with Marcia Lee

March has been a busy month! We began the month getting

plenty of exercise to songs like *Jump Into The Light, Father Abraham, All Fall Down, The Tootie Ta*, and *Shake, Shake, Hallelujah*. We celebrated

God's powerful and gusty wind by singing *If I Were the Wind;*

Windmills are Turning; Oh, I Wish I Were A Windmill; My Kite is Flying; and *Let's Go Fly a Kite*.

As St. Patrick's Day approached, we sang *Let's Wear Green and Dance a Jig, Top of the Morning to You*, and a silly song that accompanied a book we read by the same title called, *There Once Was A Man Named Michael Finnegan*. These songs really set the mood for the "wearing of the green!"

As we prepared for Easter coming in April, the children enjoyed singing and moving to *The Bunny Hop* as well as *Jesus Is Alive!* Now we will sing to prepare for bright sunshine, spring rains,



warmer weather, and new flowers for which God is preparing the earth.

Chapel with Marcia Lee

During Chapel in March, we learned about the awesome power of God. Having experienced some very windy days, the power of God's wind was a valuable lesson. We were reminded that although we cannot see God, we feel His presence just as we feel the wind. We see evidence of God's presence daily just as we see evidence of the wind when the leaves blow and a kite flies.

That famous missionary to Ireland, St. Patrick, gave us a great way to think of the Holy Trinity. By looking at the shamrock leaf, we realize



God, the Son (or Jesus); and God, the Holy Spirit (who lives in our

each leaf part stands for a different way of seeing God. There is God, the Father;



hearts).

On the 17th and 23rd of March, in observance of Community Helpers Week, two ministers from First Baptist Church shared lessons with our students. Dr. Jason Mitchell, a pastor at FBCS and a student's daddy talked about the job of a pastor. Reverend Sly Samudre, a minister and worship leader at FBCS, led us in a song of praise!



A lesson in sharing was learned by the story of the little boy who shared his lunch of 2 fish and 5 small loaves of bread with a crowd of 5,000 people when Jesus was teaching on a hillside. By a miracle of Jesus' hand and a powerful prayer to the Heavenly Father, those 2 small fish and 5 small loaves filled baskets of food that fed the 5,000 until they were full. There was even 12 baskets of food left over! We can read this account in the Bible in Matthew 14:13-21.





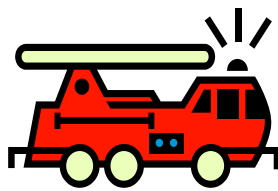
There were several parents who took their time to share with the boys and girls all about their jobs. We learned a lot about different helpers in our community. **Thank you!**

FIREFIIGHTERS. We know our community is safe when those firemen and women are on duty, ready in a minute to help rescue us when needed.



Ask your child to describe for you how the firefighter "gears up" to get ready to go into a burning building.

During their visit, the firefighters discussed how each family needs to have a meeting place outside (such as a



neighbor's mailbox or a specific tree) in case there is a fire.

Please practice meeting there with your children at home. Then, in the event of a fire, everyone can be accounted for. Also, make certain to check the batteries regularly in your smoke detectors. Let's all stay **SAFE!**



Mr. Curtis (Nolan's daddy) is trained as a criminal investigator. He showed Mrs. Mahan's class his badge and his handcuffs. Mr. Curtis explained how it is his job to protect people in the government and keeps them safe.



Dr. Chyn (Anna Grace Kim's mommy) is a dentist with **Blessed Smiles Dentistry**. She visited us, explaining how to practice good dental care. In addition, she provided for each student in the Day School a gift bag which included a toothbrush, a small tube of toothpaste, a tooth-shaped eraser, and a fun toy. After hearing Dr. Chyn speak, we are all excited about taking care of our teeth!



Rev. Jason Mitchell (Jesse's daddy) led our Chapel lesson on the 17th and 23rd of March. He spoke to us about the plans God has for us. He said we are God's helpers, even now when we are very young, referencing the verse from Ephesians 2:10 which states "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Rev. Sly Samudre is a minister of the church as well as the worship leader. He really got the boys and girls excited as they learned a new song called, **Hands In The Air!**

The room was really rockin' when we all sang and moved.



Mrs. Giannella (Annora's mommy) has two jobs. She explained to the children all about the work she does helping cats at the Cat Clinic. Using **Hello Kitty** as a prop, she told how she weighs each cat and will also get any shots ready for the doctor when he/she sees the kitty.



Mrs. Giannella also works as an instructor for **Stroller Strides/Stroller Barre**, which blends a lot of various types of exercises to make a leaner looking mommy. She had us moving and exercising to music. She was gracious enough to give each student one free pass card to **FIT4MOM**. We certainly hope you can use it!

Mrs. Summers (Jacob's mommy) is a Psychologist. She spoke with the children in Mrs. Westbrook's class about expressing their feelings. She emphasized to the students how talking to your parents when something is bothering you is the right thing to do and will make you feel better.



Mrs. Hiatt (Scout's mommy) is a school nurse. She explained



to Mrs. Mahan's class how important it is for a school to have a nurse in the building when children get sick at school. All the boys and girls heard their heartbeat through Mrs. Hiatt's stethoscope. Wow!