

# Teacher Tales

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



Happy Mother's Day to all and thank you for joining us for our Mother's Day Celebration.

The children really enjoyed painting the Mother's Day plates and making the beautiful flower cards for their moms.

It is hard to believe that the 2016-2017 school year has come to an end. We want to thank you for letting us be a part of your children's lives this past year. They have matured and learned so much. It is incredible! Each school day they recited their alphabet, numbers from 0-10, primary colors, shapes,

Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag, the Christian flag, and to the Bible. They also said the monthly Bible verse. They willingly performed their daily jobs (line leader, caboose, American Flag holder, Bible holder, Christian Flag holder, prayer person, calendar person, weather person, clean-up announcer, and bell ringer) and

they loved taking on those responsibilities. They can walk in line and know how to walk up/down the stairs with one hand on the railing, taking one step at a time. These are great achievements! We are very proud of each of them.

Thanks to all of you for your support this past school year. Each of you has helped in many ways and we certainly appreciated your help and encouragement.

WE HAD A WONDERFUL SCHOOL YEAR and we wish you and your families a wonderful, safe, and blessed summer.



## 3 Year Olds Kristie Morris and Glenda Rodriguez

I have been so blessed by your children this year. Each one has taught me a new way to enjoy living in God's wonderful grace. In May we finished up our alphabet. We learned that Jesus went UP to be with God (His Heavenly Father). We also took the opportunity to learn about the Moon, Stars, and Planets that God created.

Thank you so much for attending our Mother's Day celebration.

I hope you were as blessed by it as the children were in preparing for it. They were so excited to make the crafts and gifts that our room was almost buzzing! In keeping with our Mother's Day theme, we learned about baby animals. We read one of my favorite books, Are You My Mother, by P.D. Eastman. It was so fun to watch the children with their kangaroo pouches listening to the stories. What good parents they will be one day! Thank you, God, for Moms!

We flew into our transportation week as we celebrated all the different ways we get around. I think this was probably the most fun unit for our 7 boy and 3 girl class!

We reviewed that Jesus didn't leave us helpless when He went to heaven. He left with us the Holy Spirit to help guide us to make good choices and pray. The children love praying for Mommies and Daddies, sisters, and brothers, and friends. We always remember our friends who may be absent, and also Mrs. Cheek. It warms my heart when the kids ask to pray about specific things. I treasure that peek into their Big Hearts!

Our last week of school was devoted to outdoors. On Monday we went camping. The tent is always a winner for our class! The children enjoyed their Rice Krispie treats, and the hot dog wasn't bad either. We had a great time reading The Teddy Bear's Picnic, by Jimmy Kennedy, and having a picnic.

Thank you so much for sharing your children with us this year.

### **3 Year Olds**

## **Shawna Kirkman and Betty Hamlin**

May was filled with many fun activities, and having our moms in the classroom was a special treat. The children had fun with the story, *If You Give A Moose A Muffin*. The children colored a muffin and dictated what their Mom would do when given a muffin! We hope you enjoyed the songs and gifts from your children.



We all had fun with the caterpillars, and learned a lot as we watched each of them spin a chrysalis and then hatch out as a butterfly. Everyone was amazed each day as they entered the classroom and saw the changes the caterpillars had undergone. The children were very excited when we released the butterflies and watched them fly away.



We also had fun with bees, turtles, frogs and ladybugs that we were able to make and look at with magnifying glasses.

Our classroom looked like a campground during Camp Day with a tent, flashlights, and towels all over the room. We pretended to fish, then ate hotdogs for snacks. Making our "necktie snakes" was exciting, and the children enjoyed making them slither around the room.



We would like to wish Gus and William a Happy Birthday who turned 4 in May. We would also like to wish Andy, Lila, Johnny, Othniel and Anna a happy summer birthday.

The end of the year is both a happy and a sad time. We have had many good times together this year which makes us happy, especially when we see how much each child has grown and matured. It is sad, though, to think that the school year has come to a close, and our time together is over.

Mrs. Hamlin and I hope that everyone has a wonderful summer. Please stop by to see us if you are at the preschool next year. It has been a real pleasure to work with you and your child!



### **4 Year Olds**

## **Ellen Mahan and Mrs. Gabellini**

What a wonderful year this has been. It's hard to believe it's gone by so fast.

This month the children learned about life on a farm. We talked about the difference between wild animals and animals that rely on man for their food. And we looked at all the food items we get from a farm.

A school highlight of this month was watching caterpillars in a jar slowly form chrysalises and then emerge as beautiful butterflies. It was a thrill for

the children to witness the transformation and then wave goodbye as we set them free.



The children had a great time planning a wonderful Mother's Day celebration for all our awesome moms. They took great pride in their artistic key rings and butterfly magnets, and they were so excited to have their moms at school with them. Thanks so much to each of you who were able to take time out from your busy schedules to attend our Mother's Day program.

In our last week of school we enjoyed our indoor Camping Day. We sang camp songs, shared stories around our imitation camp fire, played with plastic snakes and feasted on hot dogs and Rice Krispie treats.



This year has been full of discovery and fun. We explored math as we learned about numbers, counting, sorting, and patterns. We laid the foundation for reading and writing as we learned that each letter in the alphabet makes a certain sound that helps to build words. And we used many different tools and games to help us learn to write letters. The children spent each day exploring the world around them through music, science, art, stories, and chapel lessons. They've made new friends, and had wonderful opportunities to play and grow. It was amazing to watch their confidence soar with each new thing they learned.

Most importantly, our prayer is that we have helped them learn more about God's love for them. Mrs. Gabellini and I thank you for giving us a chance to work with your children. It has been a joy and a blessing. Have a safe and fun filled summer.



## 4 Year Olds Betty Light and Cheryl Halla

What a great school year!  
We had so much fun watching  
your child grow physically,  
emotionally, and academically.

Each one has improved  
his/her skills in both number and  
alphabet recognition. Many can  
write the entire  
alphabet! Playing  
number and alphabet  
Bingo for prizes was a  
real incentive. They had to pay  
attention if they wanted to win!



Fine motor skills have greatly  
improved. After cutting out all  
those dinosaurs last month,  
everyone can cut out more  
difficult shapes now without  
help.

All of our units were greeted  
with great enthusiasm by the  
children. I do think, however,  
the Dinosaur unit was the  
favorite. I wonder how many  
stuffed dinosaurs will go to  
college someday.



Our Medieval Castle  
unit was a close second  
favorite. It was hailed  
with shouts of enthusiasm when  
the children saw all the castles,  
knights, and dragons with which  
to play. We also had several  
castle block sets which the boys  
and girls used to construct  
amazing masterpieces.



Each day a newly designed  
castle appeared. It was  
fun to see such creativity.

The children really used  
their imaginations when they

put on puppet shows with our  
king, queen, knight, and dragon  
puppets. They were very  
entertaining.

Our boys and girls really did  
a great job on their family

Coat of Arms  
homework assignment.



It was interesting to  
hear about each one. Once  
again we were introduced to  
new words. They were: moat,  
keep, drawbridge, tournament,  
portcullis, and troubadour.  
Ask your child about these  
words. If they answered  
questions about them, they  
received a knight, king, or



queen finger puppet. They  
all learned the stages a  
boy had to go through to  
become a knight. Ask your  
child to tell you. The highlight  
of this unit was our Medieval

Feast Days. It  
was fun to wear  
our crowns and  
princess hats

during our feast.

What a great way to end the  
school year!

A BIG THANK YOU goes to  
parents for your help with our  
projects! Being active in your  
child's school life sends a  
positive message to your child.

Now Graduation Day is  
here! Your child has been an  
important part of our school  
life. We will miss each one.  
Please keep in touch. We  
always like to hear how they  
are doing in "BIG SCHOOL."

Have a safe, healthy, and  
happy summer! Good luck in  
Kindergarten.

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

Spring has sprung and we have  
enjoyed the warm weather and  
learning about insects and  
plants. We also learned



about the lifecycle of a  
butterfly and a chicken. The  
children loved watching the  
caterpillars grow and spin into  
chrysalises. When they  
emerged as butterflies, the  
children observed as they



matured and  
learned how to  
use their wings. We  
all cheered and  
waved as we released them  
outside.

We also learned about baby  
chicks, and the children  
really enjoyed being able  
to hold and see the baby  
chicks. They were all so  
soft and fuzzy.



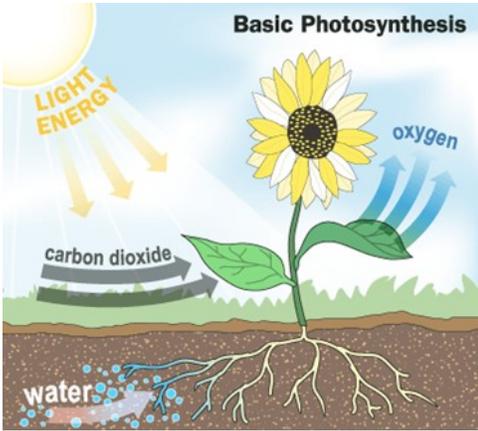
How thrilled we were to  
celebrate our moms as

we prepared our special  
gifts and special  
snack of sugar  
cookies. We all  
recognize that  
God provided each of us  
with the perfect mom!

We learned a lot about plants  
during May. As we studied the  
parts of a flower from the roots  
to the pedal, we learned what  
plants need to grow such as: sun,  
water and soil. We planted grass  
seed and enjoyed watching it



grow. The children loved taking care of it by watering it.



We had a lot of fun celebrating Camp Day. The children helped to pitch a tent and then they packed their backpacks. We had a special snack by the 'campfire' of hot dogs, chips, and Rice Krispie



treats. We also learned how to be God's happy campers by being kind. The story of The Good Samaritan was shared as the children discussed being kind to others. We enjoyed reading books about camping such as Curious George Goes Camping, and Amelia Bedelia Goes Camping.



It was a fun and enjoyable month and school year. As the children prepare to graduate from preschool, we are confident that they are ready for the challenge of the next chapter



of their young lives. Kindergarten will be starting before you know it. Please know that our prayer for each one of your children is to remember God has a plan for them. They will do great things! Thank you for entrusting your child to us this year as we have thoroughly enjoyed our time with your children. We wish you God's blessings over the summer and next year!



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

Spring has sprung! We enjoyed the warmer weather and seeing the transformation



of life in plants and animals. Observing changes in plants led us to other changes in nature. We discussed the life cycle of a butterfly and learned more about insects in general. The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle reinforced the transformation that occurs from caterpillar to butterfly. Our Bible verse from 2 Corinthians 5:17 was "In Christ, all things become new." This truth was explained that when we decide to love Jesus, His love grows in us and changes us to be more like Him. Additionally, God's forgiveness makes us cleansed and new.

In God's goodness, He gave us families, and this month we celebrated **mothers!** The children enjoyed helping create and make the yummy snack for their very special moms, especially the cups of dirt for dessert! We sure did enjoy using bright colors to paint special pots complete with a 'hug' made from our own handprints for our Mother's Day gift! We then planted and watered the beautiful flowers.



And speaking of plants, we learned all about the different parts of a flower. From the roots all the way up to the flower's petals. The children should all be able to identify the various plant parts.

We sure had a lot of fun preparing for and celebrating camp days! We pitched a tent,



turned out the lights and read **The Very Lonely Firefly** by Eric Carle by flashlight! We caught our own fireflies and used their glowing light to help us tell our story! The children all loved the twinkling surprise at the end of the book! And what fun it was to spread out our towels and have our special camp themed snacks surrounding the campfire with our friends.



We hope you were able to take a peek at our art work on the preschool hall tree this month. The nests with baby birds and the beautiful spring flowers are just a few examples of the changes we see in Spring and how we continue to **GROW IN GODS LOVE!**

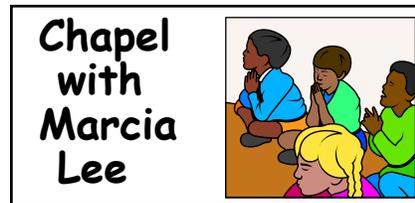
There it is again, change! I have noticed how your children have sprouted up! Not only have they grown a bit taller, but also have developed in so many ways. Many of these accomplishments have prepared them to be Kindergarten ready. Although we have introduced the idea in the past, we are diligently practicing our behavior!



Carry this fun into summer by encouraging your child to find letters or sight words as a scavenger hunt. Practice letter sounds to keep them ready for



school...and ready they are! Kindergarten here they come!



Our first lesson for May was about the "fruits of the Spirit." There are nine (9) attributes that make us more loving and better witnesses for our Lord. The Bible verse from **Galatians 5:22-23** lists these attributes. We learned a fun song in which are named fruits that are **NOT** 'fruits of the spirit' and then the fruits that **ARE** 'fruits of the spirit.' We should all strive to attain these attributes so others can see Christ in us! To view and hear the song, **Fruit of the Spirit**, please visit:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8j2PUWQa7fs>  
This particular version is uploaded by TheJHumpa1. **ENJOY!!!**

As Mother's Day approached, we learned how Moses' mother saved his life. Moses was then able to accomplish great things that God had planned for him. We all agreed we must honor our mothers. We learned from Deuteronomy 5:16, "Honor your father and mother...this is a commandment of the Lord your God." Praise the Lord!!!



In our final Chapel lesson of the year, we praised the beauty of the butterflies God provides for the Earth. The brilliant colors of each butterfly bring praise and glory to God. In Psalm 150:6, the Bible tells us, "Let everything that breathes praise the Lord. Praise the Lord!" Since we released our butterflies into the wild this month, we all said this verse together as a praise to God.



As the school year drew to a close, I reflected on how thankful I am to you for entrusting your child to our care, and allowing us to share, in part, your child's educational, physical, emotional, and social growth and developmental experience. These precious young children are small treasures "on loan" to us for a short time from the Lord.



## Music with Marcia Lee

What a real treat it was for the boys and girls to practice and then sing songs honoring their mothers! This year's Mother's Day presentation was very special. Thank you, moms so much!



By this time of the year the children are really singing their hearts out! The teachers have reported hearing the children singing in the hallway, during snack time, on the playground, and even in the bathroom. During music time they especially sing out when we get to a favorite song! WOW!

The two and three year olds have enjoyed songs this month about insects, as well as *The Fruit Salad Salsa*, *The Lion Sleeps Tonight*, *These Are My Glasses*, *I'm Gonna Sing*, and *Friend, Oh Friend!*



We all sang *as we waved "good-bye"* to the butterflies we released after raising them from caterpillars. What a wonderful learning experience that was!



The four year olds spent a good part of May practicing for their Graduation program. They prepared a lot of their favorite songs (like *Colors*, *1, 2, 3, Jesus Loves Me*, *God Has a Plan*, *Fixin' My Eyes!* and *Tooty Ta*) for you to enjoy on Graduation night. I hope you were prepared to participate! This special night was fun, and the children looked forward to it indeed!



It was another fun year for me. Thank you for sharing your precious children. Thank you, too, for being so supportive and encouraging to me and the FBCDS staff. I hope to see many of you next year! Have a great summer and may God bless you!



**Keep a song in your heart!**



## Science with Rebecca Myers

May has been an exciting and fun month! We learned about the life cycle of a chicken and saw how incubators work as well as the progression of a chick inside the egg by candling (or shining a light inside) a real chicken egg! While we waited for our eggs to hatch we learned about natural energy sources, such as the wind and the sun. We also created energy through chemistry by firing off a rocket with Mentos



and diet soda! It was so cool to see how far up the soda went! We then powered our own rockets by blowing through straws with the paper rocket on top.



As hatch day came for our chicks, we got to see a video of one actually hatching! We were also able to touch and hold the fluffy chicks. We saw the shell they came out of and noticed their 'egg tooth' on the top of their beak which helps them peck their way out of their shells. They will lose that as they get older.



Lastly, we learned about electricity and how our bodies are good conductors of it because of the amount of water we have inside of us. We played with an energy stick that buzzes and lights up when the circuit is complete. We tried to see how big a circle we could make that would still complete the circuit. It was a great end of the year exercise to physically show how we are all connected in the same way that God's love connects us to Him. And His Holy Spirit can travel through us in our words and actions every day.



Thank you for sharing your children with us. We had so much fun learning about God's world through Science!