

# Teacher Tales

## 2 1/2 Year Olds Katie Denisar and Julie Zimmerman

October was another exciting month! We are settling into the school routine and the children are becoming more interactive with the teachers and each other. They are getting more comfortable with the morning meeting-completing patterns on the calendar, singing the days of the week song, counting, checking the weather, and saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

The students have enjoyed



reading books about squirrels, bats, owls, spiders,

scarecrows and pumpkins! The especially liked singing "*Gray Squirrel, Gray Squirrel, Swish Your Bushy Tail*", "*There's a Spider on the Floor*", and "*5 Little Pumpkins*". We have been practicing sitting and listening to stories which has been pretty successful most



days. They loved reading about A Squirrel's Tale, The Old Lady Who Swallowed a Bat, The Very Busy Spider, Going on a Leaf Hunt and lots of pumpkin books!



We had a great time making bats, awesome spider hats, stuffing a scarecrow, leaf art and carving a pumpkin! We have been focusing on playing to learn colors, numbers and shapes while starting to improve on the basics of walking in a line, sitting during a story and working out our fine motor skills with playdough, coloring and cutting!



Please remember to check your kiddos' school bags regularly, restock diapers/pull-ups as needed and make sure their 'just in case' change of clothes are cold weather appropriate. We plan to play on the playground unless it's raining or below freezing, so please remember jackets for your children. We are so blessed to work with them and you and look forward to many more school firsts!



## 3 Year Olds Renae Crawford and Stephanie Jenkins

As we entered into our fall season, we enjoyed so many exciting activities. October was a busy month as we learned about creatures such as owls, squirrels, bats, and spiders.

The class also had a great time as we made our class scarecrow! You can meet him standing outside our classroom.



Toward the end of the month we were able to carve a pumpkin and turn it into a jack-o-lantern. Some of the kids loved being able to feel how slimy and cold it was on the inside. It was like a treasure hunt as they looked for the pumpkin seeds. Some kids were happy to just watch.



Happy birthday to Mrs. Crawford and Raegan. We hope you had a wonderful time on your special day in October!



In November, we look forward to even more fun and excitement! We will learn about Native Americans, Pilgrims, turkeys, and giving thanks. The Thanksgiving

Feast is an event we anticipate anxiously during November. We have so much to be thankful for....especially for each child in our classroom.

 **4 Year Olds  
Katie Denisar  
and Kris Morris**

Fall is in the air! We enjoyed all of our fall themed weeks such as squirrels, owls, bats, spiders, scarecrows and pumpkins! Our Bible verse for October was Daniel 2:21 "He changes the time and seasons." In keeping with that, our curriculum focused on the changing season of fall. We learned about different animals that are more active in the fall and why that is. We also explored fall leaves and pumpkins!



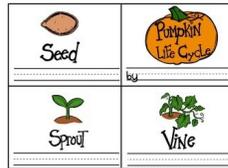
Over the last few weeks we learned four new letters (S, B, H, and P). We practiced starting our letters from the top and strengthening our grip by exercising or fine motor muscles.

We practiced writing with different utensils (pencils, markers and chalk), used scissors and played with playdough!

Your children worked very hard this month but also had plenty of fun! Our library visits started the first week of October. We also had science lessons about the difference between bats and birds, the body of a spider, bones/the



skeleton, and the life cycle of a pumpkin.



We had so much fun doing fun crafts like creating our owls, painting with acorns, painting bats, making spider hats, stuffing a scarecrow, and enjoying pumpkin art!



We read many good books and loved singing fun songs this month! Some of their favorite books were, I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Bat, The Very Busy Spider, Going on a Leaf Hunt and The Runaway Pumpkin! 'There's a Spider on the Floor', 'Gray Squirrel', 'I'm a Little Scarecrow' and '5 Little Pumpkins' were favorite songs this month!

In November we look forward to honoring our dads with a



Father's Day program and enjoying our special Thanksgiving Feast!

**4 Year Olds  
Brenda Allen  
and Meagan Luallin**

October has been a blast in the Owl Friends classroom! We continue learning the Fruits of the Spirit. (Galatians 5:22) Joy, peace, patience and kindness! We enjoyed learning about the season changing to autumn, and all of the joys of this season —

—changing leaves and darker days, the life cycle of trees, acorns and busy squirrels! We are training our big, wise, owl eyes to look for fall leaves of all shapes, colors and sizes. We had fun learning about bats and spiders, and other nocturnal creatures. We took some walks outside to find acorns, leaves and to look for spider webs!



October was full of art work. We have continued practicing gluing, cutting, using glitter, and coloring with all kinds of mediums. Coloring with chalk, markers, colored pencils stringing beads, sowing scarecrow mouths - so many different ways to use our creativity as well as hone our fine motor skills! We enjoyed playing lots of number games, and the post office is a big hit! Look in their bags for special notes. (Thank you for stocking us up with your cards, envelopes and stickers!)

Harvests, scarecrows, maize, and crows had our full attention in the third week (including the fun it was to make our own classroom scarecrow!)

The end of October was all about the pumpkin. Carving and scooping the seeds out was a very fun and interesting way to revisit using all of our 5 senses.

We love our music time

every day! Maybe they have shared some of our songs with you? We learned lots of new silly songs and some good songs for our fruits of the spirit, too. Best of all, we got to smile, giggle and dance!

We worked very hard on writing our names! I hope you will be able to see the improvement. Every morning we work on the date, days of the week and months of the year.

We read a LOT of books in October. I don't even have time to read all the cute books I want to. All the students seem to enjoy going to our "Library" and picking books to take home.

Our class was able to get a lot done in October, and we look forward to a very busy and productive November as well!

**4 Year Olds  
Glenda Rodriguez  
and Sarah Medina**

With the changing of the leaves, we found ourselves starting the month of October learning all about colors. We discussed primary and secondary colors. One of our favorite units this month was our unit on Nocturnal Animals. We created a nocturnal owl and discussed what owls eat.



We introduced 4 new letters E, H, T and I this month. We continue to work on writing our names, forming letters from the top, shapes, numbers and colors as well as enhancing our skills with scissors!



Our library visits started the first week of

October. Our Bible verse for October was "Grow in the knowledge of Our Lord" from 2 Peter 3:18.

We have seen a lot of growth in our students this month, including their friendships with each other! We are so proud of our little friends!

I hope that you met our soldier scarecrow outside our classroom. All of our students stuffed him during **Scarecrow Week**.

The end of the month concluded with everything pumpkin. We were able to carve a pumpkin and turn it into a jack-o-lantern. The kids loved being able to feel how slimy and cold it was on the inside.

As the weather cools off please check your child's change of clothes to make sure they are seasonally appropriate.



November will be a fun filled month of celebrating our fathers and our special Thanksgiving Feast.

**Music with  
Marcia Lee**

October was a fun month in music. We sang and moved to the **Hokey Pokey**.

During Harvest Time, we learned and talked about pumpkins and other tasty vegetables that need to be harvested from the fields. We pretended to add many vegetables to a huge stewpot while singing **Stirring My Stew**.

During "Scarecrow Week", we learned a song about the **Forlorn Scarecrow** who was very sad



because he couldn't scare the crows away. Have your child sing it for you.



As pumpkin season drew closer, we sang a lot of songs celebrating this great food item. They include: **My Pumpkin's in the Patch; Pumpkin, Pumpkin, Round and Fat; and Pumpkin, Pumpkin, Happy Pumpkin.**

October wouldn't be complete without our furry friend, the squirrel. You must hear and watch your child sing and do the motions to **Gray Squirrel**.



We look forward to November when we will sing about Mr. Turkey, our families, and how thankful we are for the bountiful harvest God has provided. He shows His love for us daily.



**Chapel with  
Marcia Lee**

During Chapel this month, we focused on being the kind of friend God would like us to be by "sharing" and by showing love. We read a book entitled **God Loves You, Barnabas** by Royden Lepp. God wants us to be a good friend to others just like Barnabas was!

We were challenged to not be "blind as a bat" to the needs of others. The Bible verse to help us remember this came from John 9:25. It says, "I was blind, but now I see."



The book **The Scarecrow and the Spider** by Todd Aaron Smith intrigued us to compare God's love and protection for us to a scarecrow's protection of the crops in the field or garden.

**The Pumpkin Patch Parable** by Liz Curtis Higgs tells the story of a how a loving Farmer turns a simple pumpkin into a wonderfully glowing sight.

