

# Teacher Tales

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

We started the month celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday by reading, The Foot Book and painting with our feet!

We also read, My Many Colored Days

with a color review and talking about our emotions.



We had a great time during Community Helpers Week reading about different jobs in our community and then discussing which jobs they would like to do someday. We made bakers hats and 'made' cookies, made a mail carrier bag and delivered special letters and packages and made garbage trucks out of different shapes.

We also managed to squeeze in a fun St. Patrick's Day by



reading, There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Clover and making pots of

gold with our rainbow handprints. We played some color games during circle time where we practiced taking turns and naming colors. We



ended the month with 'Dinosaur Week' where we

read about dinosaurs, sang songs like "Dino Stomp" and made dinosaurs out of shapes and our handprints.

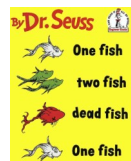
We continue working on skills such as taking turns, sharing, asking for help and listening which they have improved on so much!



The children have been able to use the 'big kid' bathroom as they have gotten more independent with their 'potty' skills. They started having chapel lessons with Mrs. Lee and have done so well at sitting still and listening to her Bible lessons! We will continue to practice naming colors, identifying their names, and counting to 10!

## 3 Year Olds Renae Crawford and Stephanie Jenkins

We began the month of March by celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday. The kids enjoyed using their handprints to show the One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish story. They turned out so cute!



Next we had a busy week learning about community helpers. We also talked about the dentist, doctors, mail carriers,

and had a special visit from one of our moms, Michelle Rodriguez (Aurelia's mommy), who is a Diplomat and came to talk to the kids about passports. They even got to use a light that illuminated special things on the passport. They also used a "spy glass" to detect hidden words on the passport. The kids really enjoyed it!



Not only did we have visitors of community helpers, we also had a visit from the silly Leprechaun who is sneaky, fast and mischievous. It messed up our classroom and left footprints everywhere. What a mess it left!



I want to say a Big Happy Birthday to Katherine, Henry and Jacob! We had a great time celebrating with you in class. I hope you had a great birthday!

April will be a very busy month as we will be celebrating Easter, talking about Noah's Ark, zoo animals, and farm animals. We have so many fun activities planned. Hopefully the weather will start to warm up so we can start going back outside even more.



## 4 Year Olds Katie Denisar and Kris Morris

Happy Spring, everyone! This month has been a blast! We started our month by celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday. We read, My Many Colored Days and talked about our feelings and how colors corresponded with them. We also read The Foot Book.

We transitioned in to Community Helpers week with Maybe You Should Fly a Jet, Maybe You Should Be a Vet and talked about what careers they wanted to have when they grew up. They made Letter Carrier bags with special mail to deliver, made chef hats and 'made' pizza and garbage trucks out of shapes.

We managed to squeeze in a couple days to celebrate St. Patrick's Day by reading, There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed Some Clover and The Luckiest Leprechaun. The kids got to think of what they were lucky to have/what their treasures were and add their ideas to their pot of gold. They also created some pretty cute leprechauns. A

lot of the kids have been showing interest in dinosaurs so we ended the month with learning about dinosaurs! We had a great time playing dinosaur games, putting together dinosaur puzzles, making fossils, sorting dinosaurs and of course, reading about them! We managed to sing a lot of dinosaur songs and raps as well.

This month, we focused on writing our letters correctly from top to bottom and started practicing writing our numbers 0-10. We practiced the letters J, P, F, and D.

Our prayer time at the end of the day has become one of our favorite times. They have opened up about what they want to pray

for and have learned to be respectful during prayer time. I love to see how thoughtful they are and how much they have opened up about what they are worried about whether it's being nervous about swim lessons, having a sick sibling or missing their dad at work.

Next month, we look forward to learning about spring and Easter with the help of 'Resurrection Eggs', celebrating Earth Day and learning about how to take care of our planet.



## 4 Year Olds Brenda Allen and Meagan Luallin

March was full of fun for our owl friends! We started March "in like a lion" - we learned about lions, and heard the story of Daniel in the lions' den.



We introduced the two aspects of the nature of Jesus with His name the 'lion of Judah'. We had lots of fun with making lion crafts and singing songs. Our second week was all about community helpers. We learned about many different kinds of community helpers from our neighborhood helpers - like garbage collectors, 'food community helpers' - like chefs, -from construction workers to health and community helpers like doctors and nurses as well as police officers. We enjoyed so many fun and informative books and songs! A special thank you to our owl moms, Dr. Molly Summers and Mrs. Emily Long! Dr. Summers taught us about being a "feelings doctor" and belly breathing (which we are still talking about!), and Mrs. Long taught us about being a music teacher and mom (I hope she will come again to teach us more songs!) Thank you for your time!

The third week of March we learned all about rainbows and Noah's Ark, along with St. Patrick's Day, shamrocks, and all things Irish! We learned about the first rainbow and God's covenant in Genesis 9:13-16. We also learned how to mix all the colors of the rainbow with paint and with play dough. For our St. Patrick's Day celebration we had a "feast day" for St. Patrick. Irish beef stew and our homemade Irish soda bread was a big hit! Our owls really enjoy cooking, and eating!



March 20th was the first day of spring, so we learned about our 3rd season for the year. Song of Songs 2:11-12 says winter is over and it is a time of singing. Yahoo! We will continue to learn about the season of spring throughout April.

March 2nd was the birthday for Dr. Seuss - Cat in the Hat, Green Eggs and Ham, and One Fish, Two Fish were a few of the books that took us into his imagination! Rhyming, creative words, and bright, make-believe worlds had all the owls laughing and thinking.



Our last week in March was "out like a lamb" Yahoo! Owls had fun learning about cute little lambs with lots of cotton ball crafts and fun songs. We also learned about the other aspect of the nature of Jesus, the lamb. This will be revisited next month for Easter!



I can hardly believe we only have two months of school left. As we move forward to the end of the year, we will take the next steps toward Kindergarten preparation. I'm looking forward to our parent/teacher conferences and discussing your owl next month. Have a wonderful Spring Break!

# Happy Easter

## 4 Year Olds Glenda Rodriguez and Sarah Medina

Another month is gone that went incredibly fast but was full of so much fun and learning! We've hit the point in the school year when it's like the children suddenly "grew up" overnight. Their level of independence is growing, attention to detail is becoming much stronger (yippee) and the DESIRE to learn and PERFORM is there! I am so pleased with the growth that has taken place within the classroom.



We focused on the different community helpers in our lives, such as policemen, firefighters, mail carriers, doctors, nurses, etc. The children loved talking about all the different jobs and what their purpose is.



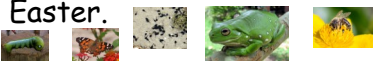
We learned about St. Patrick's Day and the different Irish traditions in reading St. Patrick's Day in the Morning and Jack and the Leprechaun.



The kids showed off their talents with rainbow and shamrock crafts.

We continued our focus on number recognition and number sense this month. On a daily basis, the children were given an activity where they would identify and represent (by numbers, pictures, or a 'hands on' activity) number 1-20 in different contexts.

Next month we'll learn about the changes that happen in spring as we explore caterpillars and butterflies, tadpoles and frogs and the honey bee. We'll also learn what **John 3:16** is all about as we celebrate the miracle of Easter.



## 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, ... My Kite is Flying; Oh, I Wish I Were A Windmill; 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 April approaches, we will sing about **SPRINGTIME**. Also, we will learn some Easter songs as we prepare for our Easter parade. 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



Chapel during March began with a lesson in sharing. We 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 preaching on a hillside. By a miracle of Jesus' hand, those 2 small fish and 5 small loaves filled baskets of food, and fed the 5,000 until they were full. There was even 12 baskets of food left over! We can read this miraculous account in the Bible in Matthew 14:13-21.



The children enjoyed hearing about some parents' jobs during Community Helpers Week. We discussed how God has a plan for each of our lives, and we want to follow God's plans for us and to make good choices. The verse that week was from Jeremiah 29:11 which says, "**For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, ... plans to give you a hope and a future.**"



Also in March, we learned about that famous missionary to Ireland, St. Patrick. He gave us a great way to think of the Holy Trinity. By looking at the shamrock leaf, we realized each leaf has three parts. We also realized each leaf part can stand for a different way of seeing God. There is God, the Father; God, the Son (or Jesus); and God, the Holy Spirit (who lives in our hearts). All the children took home a handmade "Trinity Shamrock leaf" of their own.



In March, we also 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. Our Bible verse for that week was from Joshua 1:9. It says, "**For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.**"

