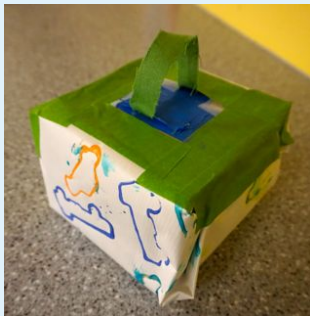




March 28, 2015

## PANDA BEAR NEWS



### Important April Dates

**Professional Development Day**  
Friday, April 3: NO SCHOOL

**Family Play Date:**

Wednesday, April 8: 3:15 – 5 p.m.  
(Investigation Station, too!)

**Parent/Teacher Conferences:**

Thursday & Friday, April 16 & 17  
(No school; childcare available.)

**Family Play Date:**

Thursday, April 30: 3:15 – 5 p.m.  
(Child safety helmet check)

Dear Parents,

This week, we welcomed back our Panda Bears from Spring Break. Supposedly, March comes in like a lion and leaves like a lamb. Based on the times we've alternated between outdoor and indoor play, March is a lion one day and a lamb the next! Although everyone has enjoyed the movement room with its toys and activities, we look forward to spending more time on the outdoor playground.

Before Spring Break, Panda Bear children learned about preparing for a trip. Miss Marsha posed the question, "What are some of the things you need to take with you on vacation?" She brought in her own items in a travel bag and led a great discussion with the children about what to think about when packing. Throughout the week, children had a choice to make a piece of luggage out of boxes, stamped paper, tape and glue. A nametag was the finishing touch.



After Spring Break, Panda Bears learned all about rocks. A chance to explore the textures, colors, sizes and shapes of rocks was available at the science table. At the writing center, children could match rocks labeled with different letters of the alphabet to charts. In art, we painted decorated rocks with tempera, made our own sedimentary rocks in Dixie cups with different types of pebbles and glue, and tried out “avalanche” painting with construction paper on an angle.

We also enjoyed the following books: Everybody Needs a Rock, Stone Soup, It’s Mine, Where the River Begins, and Sylvester and the Magic Pebble.

Next week, we will explore the world of eggs. Just a reminder, on Fridays, we have “Show and Share,” when Pandas can bring in a favorite item from home and present it to the class. This is an optional activity—no pressure—and we will not have regular school hours a couple of Fridays in April.

We look forward to meeting with you soon about your V.I.P. (Very Important Panda) at conferences. Many of you have signed up already, and there are a few spots left.



Until next time,

*Colleen & Marsha*