

Fall's
celebrations
have arrived!



Big Bear Newsletter



Halloween Celebration

Rain and cool weather did not dampen the Big Bears' Spirits for our Halloween Celebration! We spent the morning designing paper ghosts to fly from our classroom ceiling, measuring and mixing orange frosting to decorate cookies for our party, and generally buzzing about the room sharing about our costumes:) We read "Have you seen my Monster?" by Steve Light to get us in the mood and learned about so many shapes...Octagon, rhombus, hexagon, quatrefoil, trapezium, parallelogram and more! Before we knew families arrived...we sang "Five Little Pumpkins" and read the story "Monster Trouble" by Lane Fredrickson. Next we paraded outside around the pool area with the school and our visitors.

Rainbow Sparkle,
Rapunzel

and Bats, "OH
MY!"

Halloween and the holiday "día de los Muertos"

or "Day of the Dead." All Souls' Day, as celebrated on November 2 in various European and Latin American countries, especially the Mexican observance of this day honors loved ones that have passed. One Big Bear friend remembered that a fish had passed away in the school fishtank in Classroom Four, so the children helped to make a classroom "a altar de la ofrenda" (offering altar) to honor the fish.

Nocturnal Animals, Nighttime and the Moon Phases...

nocturnal(nŏk-tŭr'nəl) **adjective:** of or relating to the night (opposed to diurnal). **Occurring at night. Most active at night. Many animals, such as owls and bats, are nocturnal.**

moon noun: the earth's natural satellite

something shaped like an orb or a crescent.

The season of Fall and the Nighttime guided our class in all areas of the classroom...

Art Area: drawing with white pencils and crayons on black & blue paper, drawing on transparency paper with permanent markers to place against the classroom windows to see how light brought our creations to life, creating a Welcome Back Ms. Alicia sign at the Art Easel

Writing Area: writing, cutting & gluing nighttime words and nocturnal animals on paper, creating bat headbands, making and assembling "Five Little Pumpkins" books that we shared with families at conferences.

Science Area: looking at books about Nocturnal and Hibernating Animals and creating "Nighttime in a Bag" by combining clear hair gel, liquid watercolors, glitter and powdered soap, shining flashlights through tubes colored, translucent papers rubber banded to the ends, piecing together a large class skeleton that the kids voted on naming "Burning Up" skeleton, juicing real oranges to make and taste orange juice

We read "Thanking the Moon: celebrating the Mid-Autumn



-Painting a giant, class Jack-o-Lantern at the easel

-Creating Nocturnal, Bat Hats in the Art Area

-Dressing up to get us in the mood in the Housekeeping Area

Moon Festival," "Black Cat, White Cat: A Minibombo Book," "Little Owls Night" and others related to nocturnal animals and hibernating animals. A terrific month had by all!