

Dear families,

This week we continued to fill our pockets with poems while also turning our attention to another type of literature - fairy tales. We learned that fairy tales share some important elements such as starting with "Once upon a time" and ending with "The End" as well as many common features in the middle like magic and make-believe, a bad/scary guy (often a hungry one), things that occur in groups of 3, royalty, castles, forests, and a "happily ever after" ending for the protagonists. While fairy tales make for very entertaining stories, some children can find them to be a bit scary...luckily, our crew seems completely unfazed! We enjoyed reading different versions of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Three Little Pigs*, *Goldilocks*, and *Three Billy Goats Gruff*, comparing and contrasting them, and completing various fairy tale themed projects. In honor of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, we are currently sprouting 5 "magic beans" in the classroom, in honor of *Goldilocks*, we made adorable puppets to help us retell the story (see if you can get your child to do the voices of the different characters!) and in honor of *Three Billy Goats Gruff*, we mixed some STEM into our free play making bridges for the billy goats to cross and acting out the story with characters.

With Tuesday being St. Patrick's Day, we had some holiday-related fun and a visit from a very sneaky leprechaun named Larry that hid lucky shamrocks all around our room and turned our toilets green! Students painted rainbows at the easel complete with pots of gold at the end and did an experiment using markers and coffee filters to see how colors from markers spread and mix when wet. The leprechaun's visit inspired some creative play including leprechaun hunts and building of traps in the classroom.

Although we did not have a letter O Show & Tell this week, we did celebrate the letter with some special letter O snack necklaces (by the end of the day, only the strings remained!) and had fun making the letter O with our bodies. Ms. Ericka reviewed letters, numbers, and names of different kinds of fruit in Spanish. It is worth mentioning that, in addition to *Book With No Pictures* continuing to be a classroom favorite, *The Good Egg* has quickly made it to the top of the list of most requested read alouds in the Blue Class.

Books We Read:

Jack and the Beanstalk by Mara Alperin

Jack and the Beanstalk by Nina Filipek

Goldilocks and the Three Bears by Nina Filipek

Goldilocks and the Three Bears by Mara Alperin

The Three Billy Goats Gruff by Paul Caldone

The Three Billy Goats Gruff by Stephen Carpenter

How to Catch a Leprechaun by Adam Wallace

It's St. Patrick's Day by Rebecca Gómez

How to Trap a Leprechaun by Sue Fliess

Looking Ahead:

- Next week's Show & Tell will feature items that begin with the letter P

Have a great 3-day weekend,
Kristen & Beth









