

Dear families,

What better way to kick off our March study of different types of literature than with a celebration of rhymers and storyteller extraordinaire, Dr. Seuss?! We honored him in style - from read-alouds to art projects like Lorax windsocks, beaded fish, and a Cat in the Hat creation, a science experiment, counting/sorting activities, torn paper art fish, and a special Cat in the Hat-inspired snack. We had a fun-filled pajama day and book swap on Tuesday to celebrate Read Across America! Thank you for your help in pulling off that special day - students loved sharing their books with one another and got a kick out of being in their pjs all day :).

We recently introduced the concept of rhyming and the children have really caught on. Rhyming stories are such an important literacy tool as they give the children the opportunity to parse out the beginning sound of a word from its ending, to recognize the pattern and predictability of word families, as well as use context clues to make guesses about what the text might say. Dr. Seuss classics provide a perfect opportunity to practice rhyming because they are funny, repetitive, and predictable. The children enjoy thinking about the kind of silly, made-up rhyming words that fill his books (like a "thneed" which we know is a "fine-something-that-all-people-need!"). Before finishing the book *The Lorax*, we took a vote on who thought they might like to buy a "thneed" - your group of savvy consumers were not at all tricked by the Onceler's advertising campaign - most students said they would not buy a thneed even though the Onceler said they should and the ones that said they would buy one said it was just to be silly.

Although we did not have access to Parish Hall or the playground this week, we did lots of creative movement activities with the Red Class during our normal playground time. Ms. Beth led both classes in a fun yoga class in the Undercroft that included traditional poses as well as sound effects and jumping. We used the parachute several times for games of One Fish, Two Fish, Ring Around the Rosie, and 5 Little Monkeys. And on the most springlike day of the week, we took a "Wacky Wednesday Walk" down to the water. Also this week, Ms. Ericka got into the letter M fun and introduced us to lots of Spanish words that begin with M. We had a marvelous, meaningful Show and Tell followed by a dance party to the song "I Like to Move It."

Books We Read:

One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish by Dr. Seuss

Green Eggs and Ham by Dr. Seuss

The Lorax by Dr. Seuss

The Cat in the Hat by Dr. Seuss

Mr. Brown and Moo Can You? by Dr. Seuss

Miss Mary Mack by Mary Ann Hoberman

Looking Ahead:

- We are in need of shoeboxes for our upcoming fairy tale dioramas. Please send in any you have at home and if you've been eyeing a new pair, treat yourself (do it for the children...)!
- Next week's Show and Tell will feature the letter N.
- Hopefully the weather will improve a bit next week and we can get outside on the playground. It will likely be wet and muddy, so please send in rain boots that kids can change into and make sure we have a change of clothes at school.

Have a great weekend,
Kristen and Beth











