This month, we transitioned from a month talking all about water to talking about a place with very little water: the desert! Throughout the month of March, the children spent time making different colored sand, using that sand to make art with their first initial, playing with prairie dog puppets, creating hummingbirds, collaging scorpions, practicing patterning on snake shapes, and enjoying a variety of stories about desert plants and animals. Some of the books that helped guide our exploration were “In The Desert” by David Schwartz, “Baby Rattlesnake” by Lynn Moroney, “Meet The Meerkat” by Darrin Lunde, “Coyote” by Gerald McDermott and “Cactus Soup” by Eric A. Kimmel.

Our senses played a big part in our learning about the desert. We saw videos and pictures of different desert animals, heard recordings of animal sounds, touched hot and cold sand to illustrate that it’s hot in the day and cold at night, and smelled the fruit of a prickly pear cactus. We also had a wonderful time using what we learned in our play. We cooked food over a fire and slept in tents in our dramatic play camping area and we pretended to be prairie dogs and coyotes in “Prairie Dog Town” (pictured above).
DESERt Play heating up at the children’s school.

(Starting with top-left and moving clockwise...)

- Basil with his spider creation.
- Elena adding flowers to her saguaro cactus.
- Sally and friends trying to keep the prairie dogs safe from the snakes and coyotes.
- Emma and James identifying desert animals.
- Min Seo adding stripes to her scorpion.
MORE DESERT FUN

Thank you to everyone who spiced up our Desert theme...

We want to say thank you to everyone who shared their time with us at The Children’s School. The afternoon friends were treated to a ballroom dance performance by one of the student interns, Alex, and her dance partner, Elias. We celebrated Samuel, Zane and Greta’s birthdays in the morning Blue Room. In the afternoon Blue Room, we celebrated Charlie and Min Woo’s birthdays. It was wonderful to spend time with family members, hear wonderful stories, and make and eat tasty muffin snacks.

The three-year-old friends had the opportunity to see the CMU design students’ recycled materials projects (pictured on the next page) and the children identified animals that lived in water (carry over from the last theme) and repurposed materials like phones and bottles.

Mrs. Tomer  Miss Stevens  Mr. Salinetro
WE ARE VERY LUCKY TO BE ON CARNEGIE MELLON’S CAMPUS AND HAVE ACCESS TO THE PROJECTS AND RESOURCES AROUND US! THE AFTERNOON FRIENDS WALKED TO THE BASEMENT TO SEE A FEW ROBOTS AND MACHINES. ALL OF THE FRIENDS WALKED UPSTAIRS TO SEE THE DESIGN STUDENTS’ RECYCLED MATERIALS ANIMAL PROJECTS. THE MORNING FRIENDS PARTICIPATED IN A WHOLE GROUP SQUARE DANCE IN THE RED ROOM LED BY MS. MCMICHAEL.