Our theme for the partial months of March/April has been “Ocean”. We have enjoyed transforming the information we have learned from Ocean-themed books, songs, demonstrations and materials into a long-term “seascape” project. Some of the vocabulary we have learned includes: star fish, humpback whale, and coral.

Children learned about the crashing waves and how their strength crushes rocks and shells, like a hammer, creating sand.

The children listened to ocean sounds, such as waves, dolphin squeaks, and the low moans of a whale.

During our “Ocean” unit, we enjoyed some dramatic renditions of the book, “Harry by the Sea” about a dog at the shore who frightens sunbathers in his seaweed-covered disguise, as well as, the song, “Slippery Fish”. We learned that fish are covered in scales, which are like small shields protecting the soft fish body. The tuna fish is as tall as Mr. Salinetro, and the octopus has three hearts. The Great White Shark can have up to twelve babies, called “pups”, and humpback whales breathe through a blow-hole while “breaching” or jumping out of the water with their bellies sticking out.

We also learned that whales have teeth like a broom, called “baleen”, and they eat small fish called “krill” by pushing the water out through their teeth, leaving the krill inside their mouth to eat.

Throughout the “Ocean” unit, children got to take part in “ocean” themed activities in gym, like the game “Shark Attack” and parachute fish toss.

We got to try a sample of an ocean snack: seaweed. Some friends had already tried it with their families and enjoyed it. Others tried it for the first time. It is an acquired taste for most. It has been exciting to learn new things about the Ocean!
Making Discoveries!

Ellen builds a tower that is taller than herself!

Cecilia is working with a friend to build together in the make shop!

A beautiful spring walk to the gym!

Max gets to test the strong "hammer waves".

Nathan practices trapping the soccer ball during gym.

Oliver is trying his own method!
**F UN EXPLORATIONS!**

Oliver is testing the hammer to crush shells… just like ocean waves!

Ann is practicing soccer dribbling…

Mrs. Hraber brought us a wave drum to try during music. Ann will take her turn next.

Joaquin is excited to begin his “SEASCAPE”!

Cecilia enjoys spending time in the Blue Room where she and Ms. O’Neill use play dough.

Max is experimenting with a cool instrument during music class..
LOTS OF CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES!

Joaquin enjoys dramatic play inside and outside!

Nathan is painting the whale before he adheres it to the seascape.

The flower boxes are a fun place to dig… Ann is practicing using a shovel.

Ellen is adding sand to the ocean floor.

Our last unit of the year will be “Birds”.

Mrs. Loomis, Ms. O’Neill, Mr. Salinetro, Mrs. Tomer