During the month of December, the three-year-old friends at The Children’s School spent time hearing, telling, creating and acting out stories.

We focused our attentions on the tales of “The Three Little Pigs”, “Goldilocks and the Three Bears” and “The Three Billy Goats Gruff”. These classic stories have memorable characters and plots and are easily recalled and retold by the children. The friends experienced each story in different formats as well, allowing the children to hear them being read, listen to them being sung and watch them as they were acted out.

As we transitioned from the farm theme, livestock was fresh on our minds, so we began by introducing “The Three Little Pigs”. We read books by Paul Galdone and Grosset & Dunlap, listened to the story sung by Mr. Eric and Mr. Michael, used puppets and felt board pieces, as well as costumes and props to perform the story in circle time. The children also enjoyed the story “The Three Little Fish and the Big Bad Shark” by Ken Geist and recognized that the fish were like the pigs and the shark did the same things as the wolf.

From there, we dove into the story of “Goldilocks and the Three Bears”. The book by Mike and Carl Gordon set the stage for our learning. The children were soon telling the story on their own as they assembled “Goldilocks” puzzles and played with bear toys. Similarities and differences were noticed between “Goldilocks” and the story, “The Three Snow Bears” by Jan Brett.

Our final focus story was “The Three Billy Goats Gruff” and the works by Paul Galdone and Stephen Carpenter inspired us. We enjoyed watching the video of the story by Oxbridge Baby and singing “The Three Goats Song” (words are attached to newsletter).
“ONCE UPON A TIME, AT A SCHOOL NOT SO FAR AWAY...”

(STARTING WITH TOP-LEFT AND MOVING CLOCKWISE...)

* AVERY COLORING HER BRIDGE FROM "THREE BILLY GOATS GRUFF"

* GWENDOLYN DRESSING PAPA, MAMA AND BABY BEAR

* ETHAN SANDING THE BRIDGE WE CREATED

* DANIEL USING A WASHBOARD TO CLEAN MITTENS

* BRYLIE AND JACOBO ADDING BOARDS TO THE BRIDGE
JUST SOME OF THE MANY STARS AT THE CHILDREN’S SCHOOL

Roxy

David and Jacob

Jacobo

Owen

Avery

Roxie and Max
The children have learned so much this month through books, artwork, music, and most importantly through play. The friends not only discovered how to retell stories and remember lines, but they practiced sharing materials, playing cooperatively, waiting patiently and respectfully as an audience member, and creating stories of their own.

As 2013 draws to a close, we look back and remember the time spent getting used to the new school experience. We recall discussing Recycling and how we never miss an opportunity to point out a recycling bin on the way to the playground! We reminisce about the Farm and Food theme and the fun we had creating and driving our big, red tractor. It has been a wonderful semester and we look forward to the opportunities awaiting us in the new year!

We want to say “thank you” to Marley’s mother for sharing a birthday story and teaching the afternoon friends how to sign “Happy Birthday”. Thanks go out to Sara’s parents for sharing a birthday story in English and Japanese, and to Judah’s mother for the presentation on Hanukkah for the morning friends. We are thankful for Jacobo’s parents who shared stories in Spanish with the morning Blue Room friends and also for Maeve’s parents for sharing a birthday story with the Red Room friends. Indeed, we really want to say “thank you” to all of the families for your support and trust and for sharing your children with us!

Enjoy the holidays and have a happy new year!

Mrs. Tомер      Mr. Salinetro      Ms. Stevens      Miss Bauer

(PICTURES FROM TOP LEFT AND MOVING CLOCKWISE) MAX, MARLEY AND SAMMY AS “THE THREE BEARS”, PM BLUE ROOM FRIENDS WATCHING THE GREEN ROOM PERFORM “ABIYOYO” USING THE SHADOW SCREEN, GWENDOLYN USING STORY STONES TO CREATE A UNIQUE TALE, DANIEL LISTENING TO “THE THREE SNOW BEARS”, AVERY MAKING HER HOLIDAY GIFT.