Our theme for the month of December has been Theater and Storytelling.

The three's team decided to emphasize storytelling, starting with nursery rhymes and using diverse books.

We started with “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star” which is very familiar to the children. The other Nursery Rhymes were “Hickory, Dickory Dock”, “Jack Be Nimble, Jack Be Quick”, “Little Miss Muffet”, “Baa Baa Black Sheep” and “Humpty Dumpty”.

The children’s vocabulary grew as they learned the following words-stage, applause, audience, curtain, actor, storyteller, costume, pretend, and imagine.

The books and nursery rhymes came alive for the children by using felt-board stories, songs, puppets, costumes and props.

The reason the rhymes and stories were introduced in so many ways was to help captivate each child’s style of learning.

We all enjoyed the following story books- “How I Became a Pirate” by Melinda Long, “Port Side Pirates” by Debbie Harter, “Harold and the Purple Crayon” by Crockett Johnson and “Humpty Dumpty” by Daniel Kirk.

Each class had opportunities to jump over a pretend candle stick, act out the different characters in “Baa Baa Black Sheep”, “Little Miss Muffet” and the pirate stories!
Role Playing Builds Confidence!

Leeza leading the chorus with Ksenia and Zahra.

Henry and Calabria are just imagining!

Pirate Marina is on deck!

Kendal saying, "Just sprinkle some fairy dust and we can fly" along with Andrew, Morgan and Marina.

Benjamin, be careful there is a spider near by! Dominick is the storyteller and Ava is holding the spider.

Evan be nimble, Evan be quick, Evan jumped over the candlestick.
THERE ARE SO MANY WAYS TO TELL A STORY

Izhak, Morgan, Andrew and Betsy are intently listening to the story of The Three Little Pigs.

Calabria is figuring out how the Humpty Dumpty puzzle is fitting together.

Henry is creating with beautiful colored blocks on the light table.

Grace saying “It’s a pirate’s life for me!”

Benjamin along with his fellow actors performing “Baa Baa Black Sheep”!

Evan sent his crew off to find the buried treasure.
During the past two weeks, each child grew in their self-esteem and confidence, either by performing or being a part of the audience. Each child’s social interaction and cooperation was reinforced by sharing costumes, taking turns performing and giving applause for one another. Their cognitive and language development flourished by retelling stories, singing songs and acting. They became more aware and developed an understanding of the importance of having an audience while performing, as well as knowledge of the different parts of a theater. The children’s physical capabilities have been challenged by putting on and taking off costumes, necklaces, bowties, gloves, wings and boas! Creatively each child painted wings, glued treasures onto picture frames, drew a picture with a purple crayon and used bold imagination. During our third week, we will have fun telling, acting and directing the stories of the “Three Little Bears”, “Three Little Pigs”, and “Three Billy Goats Gruff”.

We want to thank the parents for joining us in celebrating birthdays Deborah, Grace, Shourya, Javier, Sean and Leeza.

Have a great winter break, and we will see you Monday, January 5th, 2015!

Ms. Stevens, Mr. Salinetro, Mrs. Tomer