At the Children’s School, our year is separated into theme-related units. During each theme, the teachers change the classroom materials. In February, we planned various activities that made the Textiles theme meaningful to each Green Room friend.

“The word textiles originally meant a woven fabric. Today it means any material that is manufactured from fibers or yarns. Throughout history textiles have been worn, lived in, walked on, and slept under. Textiles help to decorate homes and adorn our bodies.”

We began our theme by defining textile as any material that is made from fibers or yarns, usually by weaving or knitting. During the first week, we focused on identifying textiles in our environment and we explored various textures. We developed our fine motor skills while practicing weaving, sewing, and writing words that describe various textiles. Books that added to our learning during the week included, What are Textiles? by Ruth Thomson, Socks! by Tania Sohn and Clothesline Clues to Jobs People Do by Kathryn Helig.

Eugene sews a pocket.

Parker practices weaving while creating his locker tag.

Izhak takes a picture of a textile he found during our textile hunt around the school.
After becoming familiar with textiles all around us, we asked, “where do textiles come from?” From Sheep to Sweater by Robin Nelson, Fabric by Foss Science Stories, and From Cotton to T-shirt by Robin Nelson helped us discover the process. “You Tube” videos allowed us to experience the sheep shearing process and watch the farmers gather cotton from their crops. Zoomy, a handheld digital microscope, enhanced our observational skills by showing the magnified fibers in various textiles. Through textile related activities, we practiced many skills, including patterning, counting, sorting and prediction skills.
Next, we explored how textiles are dyed, decorated, recycled and reused. During our discovery, we encouraged and observed how textiles contribute to our individuality and unique expression. The Dramatic Play Center was filled with various dress up clothing shoes, and mirrors. The friends expressed their style and creativity and then they participated in a fashion show to display their unique selves. We experimented with tie dyeing T-shirts and discussed the effect dye had on cotton. Painting on various textiles allowed us to observe the result of painting and designing on fabric. We recycled fabric scraps to decoupage a wooden chair to make it new again, danced with colorful fabric scarves, drew self portraits on fabric scraps, and sewed bean bags using fabric squares. We practiced letter recognition when we stamped our name on recycled fabric scraps and then expressed our creativity when we embellished the name banner with various materials. What Can You Do with an Old Red Shoe by Anna Alter helped us discover ways to recycle and reuse everyday textiles.
Ben R. and Leeza create a rainbow using colored fabric pieces.

With the help of Betsy’s Mom, Morgan sews a bean bag.

Evelyn and Malena embellish their name banners.

Kaya and Marina practice felting.

Robin practices making the letter B with fabric scraps.

Jovie dresses her paper doll in a fabric shirt.

Izhak enjoys showing off his silky cape.

Malena practices using the weaving loom.

Morgan and Jovie decorate their name banners.

Kaya tie dyes her t-shirt.

Malena, Evelyn and Max freeze dance with colorful scarves.

Cash shows his individual style!

Max uses nylon shape shifters and his body to create a triangle.
Celebrating 100 Day and our Terrific Textile Time family event were two special events in the Green Room during the month.

100 Day

Tomer, Ben R. and Leeza count their 100 pieces of snack.

Evelyn, Ksenia, Grace and Max use fabric to create the number 100.

Tomer and Ben H. build with 100 cups.

Betsy adds tacks to contribute to hammering 100 tacks into wood.

Ava and Ksenia add 100 pegs into a pegboard.

Marina wears her 100 day headband.

Terrific Textile Time
(Green Room Activities)

Friends and families create yarn tassel necklaces.

Creating sheep using clothes pins, popsicle sticks and wool.

Children’s School alumni add to the collaborative fabric puff display.

Sock puppet fun!

Proudly showing a completed sock puppet.
Our thanks to the Green Room visitors this month!

Marina’s family visited to show us Ukrainian traditional dress.

Kaya’s mom visited to teach us about her knitting talent and to teach us how to finger knit.

Ben R.’s parents visited to celebrate his 5th birthday.

Jovie’s dad visited and shared a story with her circle time friends.

Ksenia’s parents celebrated her 5th birthday with us.

Bev Patrick (Conor’s grandma Red Room) showed us how to use a spinning wheel and a weaving loom.

Ms. Debbie, from the Carnegie Library, shared stories and songs related to our textile theme.

Mrs. Hraber brought her fun musical talents to help us discover new songs, rhythms and patterns.