Dear Families,

Over the last several weeks, dinosaurs have invaded the Green Room! During our exploration we have concentrated on the characteristics of dinosaurs, discovered their sizes, learned how we know they existed and discussed theories about what happened to the dinosaurs. Our circle time activities were filled with enthusiasm and learning opportunities. The friends learned about the Triceratops, Tyrannasaurus Rex, Diplodocus, Brachiosaurus, Apatosaurus, Stegasaurus and many more. We graphed which dinosaurs were herbivores and carnivores. We compared dinosaurs to modern day animals. We learned about what paleontologists do and find on their dinosaur digs. The friends hypothesized about what they think happened to the dinosaurs.

Some of the circle time books we enjoyed included, *Dinosaur More!* by Henrietta Stickland, *Bones, Bones*, *Dinosaur Bones* by Byron Barton *Discovering Dinosaurs with a Fossil Hunter* by Judith Williams and *Dino Pets* by Lynn Plourde.

Dinosaur Bingo, Dinosaur Land and Dino Match were popular games that helped reinforce our increasing knowledge about different dinosaurs.

The friends also had the opportunity to view some artifacts from the Carnegie Library. We had the opportunity to touch a real dinosaur bone! We explored replicas of a dinosaur tail, skull, and egg.

Our dramatic play center transformed into a dinosaur museum, design your own dinosaur egg station, and a paleontologist dig center. While in the paleontologist dig center, the friends practiced excavating bones from plaster using chisels and digging for bones in sand.

Children’s School at Carnegie Mellon University

Green Room News

Dinosaurs

October 17th- November 17th

I'm in School/ Community!
Dinosaurs

Learn about some of our favorite Dinosaur activities and projects!

**Paper Plate Stegosaurus**

During our discussions, the Stegasaurus was a popular dinosaur because of the plates on its back. The children learned that the plates controlled the Stegasaurus’ body temperature. The friends constructed their own Stegasaurus using paper plates. After they assembled and glued the parts of the Stegasaurus together, they added water colors to finish their creation.

**Dinosaur Patterning**

With each of our themes, the skill of patterning is reinforced. The children worked on their patterning using outlines of different dinosaurs. They chose and identified their pattern. After the pattern was complete, they colored their pattern. Some friends shared their dinosaur patterns at circle time.

**Pastasaurus**

In the book, *Discovering Dinosaurs with a Fossil Hunter* by Judith William, the children met paleontologist Phil Currie. The friends learned about the job of a paleontologist. We pretended we were paleontologists just back from a dinosaur dig. We used various pasta noodles (bones) and re-constructed dinosaurs skeletons.
GreenRoom-asaurus

One of our group projects was constructing a Green Room dinosaur. We collected various boxes and the children worked together to build a unique dinosaur. Over many days, we worked together to create the dinosaur and, after completion, the friends painted the dinosaur. The Greenroom-asaurus was displayed in our museum and the children pretended to observe the dinosaur in the museum and take pictures of it.

If I were a dinosaur....... 

Dinosaur stories were plentiful as we continued to learn more. The children had the opportunity to dictate stories given the prompt, If I were a dinosaur..... Creativity and imaginations were flowing as the children shared stories and then illustrated their stories.

Erupting Volcanoes

The friends shared thoughts and ideas about what they thought happened to the dinosaurs. One popular theory was that volcanoes erupted. One of our activities supported this theory. First, the children built the volcano molding playdough around a paper cup. Then, they added baking soda, food coloring and vinegar to the cup and watched the volcano erupt covering all the dinosaurs walking around the base of the volcano!
Birthdays and Special Visitors

Birthdays
Recent Green Room birthdays included: Ali, Will, Lili, Ryan and Gabrielle. These friends helped prepare a special birthday snack and their families joined us for a celebration.

Librarian and Officer Campbell
Ms. Laurel, from the Carnegie Library, visited us to share stories and songs. She read *The One and Only, Super-Duper Golly-Whopper Jim-Dandy Clock -Tock-Stopper* by Patricia Thomas, which is a wonderful story on telling time. Ms. Laurel shared a song about telling time, and we used our arms as the "arms " of the clock.

Officer Campbell from the CMU campus police stopped by to remind us about bicycle safety. He also told us about the many jobs he does as a police officer.

Cans across the Cut
Our Cans Across the Cut event was kicked off with The Children's School Run to Help the Hungry. In conjunction with our annual food drive, the children participated in a “Fun Run” around the new playground track. The whole school team ran a total of 1195 laps!! The Children’s School collected 531 cans/food donations and $361.00. We came in 2\textsuperscript{nd} place in the Cans Across the Cut event!