The books shown above are the three stories the children heard during our Friendship and Community theme.

“The Kissing Hand” by Audrey Penn. A little raccoon is to attend night school for the first time but he does not want to leave his mother. His mom tells him that he will love school and she says, “Hold out your hand and I will give you a kiss in it.” When you feel lonely, press your hand to your cheek and think, mommy loves you!” The children chose several activities during the week. Here are a few of the highlights: hand prints with a poem, shadow screen, drawing pictures of the child's family, and baking muffins.

The next book was “Chrysanthemum” by Kevin Henkes. This book tells a story about a little mouse whose parents name her Chrysanthemum when she is born. She loves her name until she goes to school and the other children laugh at her because she is named after a flower. One day Chrysanthemum meets her music teacher, Mrs.Twinkle, who loves Chreysanthemum’s name, because she, too, is named after a flower (Delphinium). This made Chrysanthemum feel good about her name once again. The children liked making large filter flowers, petal letter flowers with each child’s name, dehydrating herbs, and in the drama area selling and purchasing flowers.

The third book was “May I Bring A Friend?” by Beatrice Schenk De Regniers. This story is about a child who is invited to the king and queen’s home each day, for one week. Each time the child asks to bring a friend, such as a giraffe, monkeys, elephant, etc. After entertaining all of the child’s friends, the king and queen are asked to come to the friends’ home for tea - which was the zoo! Here are a few of the high-light activities the children chose to do that went along with the book: making elephant masks, lion head manes, animal tea and apple treats.
Mixing Muffins.
This Smells Good!

Here’s My Heart And Kiss For Your Hand!

Animal Foot Prints, A Raccoon. It’s Like My Hand!

Wow, What Big Flowers!

Can I Buy These Chrysanthemum?

Emmm, I Wonder What This Is Going To Taste Like? Dehydrating Herbs.
All of the children have adjusted well to their longer day, eating lunch in school and enjoying the activities that the team has prepared for the program.

We are off to a great start!

The Extended A.M. Team