Games

Extended Afternoon has a weekly Focus Book that expands on the Preschool theme of the month. The teachers support the stories through related activities that include experiences in each of the Developmental Domains. The story is further enhanced by weekly Cooking Projects with Mrs. Loomis, Large Motor activities and Art activities with Ms. McMichael. A brief description of the focus book is included in each Monday's email, and a list of available activities is a part of each day's email. The newsletter for each theme recaps the books and related activities through text and photographs.

For this month, our books are focused on Games. We learned about how to take turns during board games, ways to practice math, reading, and following directions, all while having fun! The children sorted items, made comparisons, and combined ingredients to create nutritious snacks.
Our first week’s focus book was “Hide and Snake” by Keith Baker. The beautifully patterned snake in this book plays a Hide and Seek game with the readers on each page.

We did many wonderful activities to express our inner artist, expand our knowledge, and engage our memories. Such activities include strawberry-banana snakes, cutting out spiral snakes, food bingo in the kitchen, manipulating clay into snakes, practicing measuring, playing “Hiss”, and singing “I’m being swallowed

You Can’t Catch Me by Martha Vandalay

The focus book during our second week, “You Can’t Catch Me” by Charlotte Doyle, takes the readers on a fun game of chase with animals. At the end, the child is caught up in a wonderful hug by a grown-up. The rhyming text can also be sung to the tune of Farmer In The Dell (with a little variation). Activities we enjoyed included: several games of Animal Dominoes, playing animal sound lotto, and playing “Duck, Duck, Goose”. We played the large motor game, “Colored Eggs”. In this fun game, all friends are given a colored plastic egg to hold. One person is the “wolf”. The wolf then says…. “knock-knock, the line answers “who there?” Wolf replies “a big bad wolf with (curly or some other variation ) hair”. The group answers “what do you want?” Wolf answers “colored eggs”. The group yells “what color?”. The wolf then says a color. Whoever had picked that color then runs across the room, with the wolf giving chase.

I Spy: Fun House by Walter Wick and Jean Marzollo

Friends were learning about the game: “I Spy”. In the book, every page has many different objects to search for, as well as fun rhymes that help to narrate each scene. We spent time playing “I Spy” in different ways: cooks used different cereals and snacks to play “I Spy”. They made patterns and used tweezers to select the different snacks and sort them into muffin cups. Friends made an “I spy” board using 3-D objects and attached them to a large poster board with tacky glue. Miss Stevens designed a Close-Up “I Spy” game that our friends had fun doing. Textures don’t always look the same when examined up closer. The object of the

Berenstain Bears:Ready, Set, Go by Stan and Jan Berenstain

This bear family has many adventures in the various books by Stan and Jan Berenstain. The children enjoyed comparing sizes, heights, distances through the characters in the book.

“READY, SET, GO!” by Stan and Jan Berenstain was our focus book choice. "We all have something we do the best - a little bit better than the rest.” This quote is on the title page of the book and is the message of the story. During the Bear Family Olympics, each member of the family has strengths in different events. For example, Papa is fast, Brother is faster, but Sister is the fastest in the running race. At the end of the story, after all of the events, Brother and Sister take turns being the best. Papa Bear is the one that is best at sleeping the longest!

The activities that supported the story were: yarn line designs, spring flowers made with tissue paper. The cooks made citrus salad with honey sticks in the kitchen. In the Red Room, we practiced jumping, running, and hopping, in and out of small hoops in team formation.
Strawberry and banana snakes for snack today!

Plant care requires spraying with water by Avery and Beau.

Beau comparing his snake along side of unifix cubes.

Playing a game of “Simon Says” in the Reflection Garden with large hoops.

Marina and Benjamin sort fruit by color.

Beau and Avery concentrate playing “I Spy”.

Making rainbows using colored sand and glue.

Avery painting a picture on snow.

Benjamin enjoys the feel of cold snow.

Planting tree seeds lemon, peach and orange.