The books from this month were a great introduction to our Games theme.

Our first book was SNAP! by Marcia Vaughan. On a very hot day, Joey, a baby kangaroo, is ready to play after staying in his mother’s pouch all day. He plays Hide and Squeak with Twisker the Mouse, Lots of Knots with Slider the Snake, Pass the Mudpie with Billie the Platypus, and Pick Up Quills with Prickler the Echidna. After a while all the friends come across Sly Tooth the Crocodile, creeping up the bank of the Tumba Rumba River. They ask him if he knows any games. Sly Tooth is tricky and he convinces the animals to walk into his mouth. But then Joey thinks of playing Tickle the Tonsils. Of course, Sly Tooth can’t help but laugh and all the animals come flying out of his mouth. The activities included creating Echidnas (porcupines) using modeling clay and toothpicks, playing the snake matching game “Hiss”, playing “Prickly Pile Up” (a porcupine stacking and balancing game), and what else but delicious mud cakes in the kitchen.

The focus book for the second week was Chicken, Chicken, Duck by Nadia Krilanovich. It is a delightful farm animal sound book. The barnyard friends are up to something, cooperating to create a surprise for the end of the story. Activities included playing the circle game, “Duck, Duck, Goose”, painting with feathers, balancing people blocks using the “Bill Ding” game, animal sound lotto (listening for farm animal sounds), and baking animal biscuits in cooking class.

Third week we read Hide and Snake by Keith Baker. There is a beautiful rainbow snake hiding amongst the pictures and the pages of this book. The friends were challenged by the game of hide and seek to find the snake’s head, body and tail as the pages were turned each time! The friends practiced rolling play dough and modeling clay to form snakes, examined a real snake skin and looked at photographs of real snakes, played “Hide and Seek” in the Red Room.

Our focus books for the following week included ‘I Spy’ selections. I Spy Rocketship, I Spy ABC’s, I Spy - A Book of Picture Riddles, I Spy (Animals In Art), and Look - a - Likes were some of the titles that were explored. We created our own “I Spy” board by working and cooperating as a team. We also played “I Spy” board games. The activities were playing “I Spy” in the sand box. “Where’s Waldo ?” search games and made 3-D glasses.

Our unit ended with two rhyming books by Michael Rex. Dunk Skunk is full of animal names and the rhyming words for the sport or athletic activity for which animal has talent. Kick Chick, Putt Mutt, and Hurdle Turtle. The book Truck Duck associates animals with the rhyming transportation word. This was a good transition book for our next unit on TRANSPORATION. Enjoy the photos!
Pumpkin Muffins were everyone’s favorite.

Measuring ingredients for pumpkin pancakes.

Woodworking keeps everyone’s interest.

Friends playing Snap the Crocodile.

Making our “I Spy” Game Board.

Woodworking requires all friends to wear safety glasses.