Storytelling

Our imaginations became enlivened this month as we shared familiar tales with the children. Variations of each book allow for further explorations. Classic fairytales create a context for creativity to be expressed. Read on to enter into our world.

Our first book was **Strega Nona**, about a “Grandma Witch” who was a magically helpful townsman. She recruited Big Anthony to help take care of her house. She forbid him to touch the magic pasta pot but his curiosity got the best of him. In his haste, after observing the spell, he failed to blow the bubbling pot three kisses to end the magic spell. He learned his lesson when he had to clean up the pasta-filled town – one bite at a time! The children used pasta to create shapes and wrote their name using pasta. We played “Ready, Set Spaghetti” and we also read *Strega Nona Meets Her Match* and *Strega Nona Takes a Vacation*.

**The Tortoise and the Hare**, adapted and illustrated by Janet Stevens, is one of the most famous of AESOP’S fables. The boastful hare challenges the tortoise to a race. The hare speeds ahead as the race begins, but in the end the tortoise helps the hare to see that “Slow and steady often wins the race.” The children practiced tracing and cutting out each animal. Using the shadow screen and their props, the friends acted out the story for an audience. The children experimented with ramps, cars and rocks to demonstrate slow and fast. We played “Tortoise, Tortoise, Hare”; and fast and slow dancing! We also baked bread dough tortoises.

**Gingerbread Man** by Karen Schmidt, a gingerbread cookie escapes from the oven and runs from various characters in the story. The gingerbread man meets his match when he encounters a fox who tricks him and gobbles him up! Throughout the week, we made gingerbread cookies, a gingerbread house and played some gingerbread games.

Mrs. Loomis and Miss McMichael
Bread dough + Raisins = Tortoises for Snack!

It’s so much fun to “jump the snake”!

Pita bread rabbits put smiles on our faces!

What a good looking group!

A very contemplative look while in the kitchen,,,

Say “CHEESE”!

Cooking our own playdoh…

We sometimes pause from our activity to capture the moment behind the lens!

Slowly moving turtles follow the leader along the trail.