

"It is better to ask some of the questions than to know all of the answers."
- James Thurber

*** The Kindergarten News ***

for the week of 4 / 18 / 22

- **Theme** – Birds / Earth Week
- **Introduce** – Sight Words: from, dig, loud & zoo / S blends / Telling time to three-quarters past the hour
- **Expressive Vocabulary** – **gullible** – *believing or trusting in almost anything, easily fooled*
honor – 1) *a sense of what is right and honest*
2) *something given or done to show respect or appreciation*
- **Bits of Intelligence** – Insects
- **Fable** – The Hare and The Tortoise

Language Arts

Our work with the blends broadens this week to include the "S" Blends – sc, sk, sm, sn, sp, sq, st & sw. We will also continue to review the contractions while our study of the long vowels will progress to words that contain a long i sound. This will once again provide us with the perfect opportunity to discuss the rules about silent e and when two vowels go walking! The children have also recently begun rehearsals on our End of the Year program. This year, the proud graduates will present *E-I-E-I Oops!*, a delightful musical with a message about the importance of self-esteem. Roles have been assigned and the girls and boys are hard at work memorizing their lines. We can't wait to perform it for you at our Kindergarten Graduation ceremony on June 2nd, so please mark your calendars!

Math / Science

To celebrate Earth Week this week, the children will learn about the various ways we can care for and protect our environment. We will learn about the three "R's" of ecology, otherwise known as reduce, reuse and recycle. Our work with telling time expands to telling time to three-quarters past the hour. We will discover that when the minute (big) hand points to the nine, we should say forty-five. This is because when we count the minutes from the twelve to the nine, we find that there are forty-five of them! We will also continue our work on measurement as well as practice our addition and subtraction. This week we will focus on the fact families with sums and minuends of 10. A new unit on birds begins this week too. The boys and girls will learn that birds hatch from eggs, are the only animals that have feathers and that while all birds have wings, not all birds can fly. Our theme table will become host to a number of common backyard birds and perhaps even a real bird's nest!

Important Dates

April 22 Happy Earth Day / wear green and blue
April 22 Art Day / Birds in a Nest craft project
April 29 Kindergarten Graduation pictures / more info to follow
May 16 – 20 Readiness Testing for First Grade
June 2 Kindergarten End of the Year Program & Graduation Ceremony

(Each student has been given a speaking part, please let me know if your child will not be able to attend so that their role can be reassigned.)

A very special thank you to Mrs. Ramirez, Mrs. Martinez & Mrs. Cesak for donating the Etch -A- Sketch, Slinky and stickers for the children's Easter baskets. They were a big hit!