

MONTARA PRESCHOOL

ACTIVITIES

We look forward to our guest Chef's this month. The pastry chef from Mezza Luna Restaurant – Pascal, will be coming Tuesday, March 2 to show the children how to make French Chocolate muffins. On Tuesday, March 16, Personal Chef Amber (Lilli's mom) will be making different potato recipes with the children.

Orlando, Sr., (Orlando, Jr's dad) will bring his pony for the children to ride with his guidance.

And on Thursday, March 11 we will be having Pony Pictures. A company comes out to take the children's photos with western gear on and on top of "Red" their pony. They are individual photos that you can purchase from Pony Pictures.

Our second visit on Monday, March 22 from the Half Moon Bay Librarian will occur. Last time she visited, she read four books in a row and the children were mesmerized!



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Imagination is the highest kite one can fly."

-Lauren Bacall



MARCH 2010

Preschool Scientific Method - By Polly Neill

Polly Neill outlines six components of the Preschool Scientific Method. Here is a shorthand version:

Observation. Observing is how children assemble information to answer a question, to learn more about something, or to solve a problem. Children begin to look closely at something, with intention. As observers, children put us to shame, for they observe with all of their senses as well as their whole bodies.

Classification. Classification is the process of grouping similar things together. This involves both identifying the relationships between things and the categories they do – and do not – belong to. Young children decide on their own system of classification and will sort and order the information they gather according to categories that are meaningful to them.

Experimenting. Experimenting is testing an idea to see if it is true or trying a solution to see if it works. Throughout the daily routine children encounter problems with materials in their play: "How can I get this blanket to stay over our house?" "The glue won't come out!" This puzzle won't go together!" Often these are problems the children do not have answers for, so they might try several ways to find an answer.

Predicting. To predict is to describe what you expect will happen. Even for children, predicting is more complex than simply guessing, because predictions are based on their knowledge and observations. To predict, children must be able to picture what happened in comparable situations previously, as well as imagine what might happen in the future as a result of their actions.

Drawing conclusions. Concrete evidence confirming a prediction leads to one type of conclusion; contradictory evidence means children have to change their ideas, and possibly gather additional information before reaching a different conclusion. Like adults, children make generalizations and form theories about how the world works based on these experiences.

Communicating ideas. Communicating ideas means sharing one's questions observations, predictions, and conclusions with others. Children are excited about sharing their discoveries and do so in many ways – through spoken language, drawings, written words and symbols, demonstrations, or gestures.

REMINDER:

Thursday, March 4 –

Orlando, Sr. is bringing his horse for pony rides. Look for permission slips to sign.

Thursday, March 11 – Pony Pictures

Friday, March 12 – Closed for Inservice Day
CPR/First Aide recertification for teachers