



HeartPrints

Center for Early Education



January 2018 Newsletter

January News

Important Dates:

Feb 7th: In-school field trip
with Goldfish Swim School

Feb 13th: Afternoon class
Valentine's Day party

Feb 14th: All school
Valentine's Day parties

Feb 18th: No School –
President's Day

Feb 19th: No School –
Teacher In-service



The month of January has been busy at Heart Prints. One of our main events of the year took place this past month, Winterfest. All of the children performed two songs with their class in the great room for their families and loved ones. Then, the students watched a magic act and video summarizing some of the events and activities they were involved in this year so far. After the performance, the children took their families into the Heart Prints classrooms to participate in different winter activities set up around the rooms. The children were so excited and proud to perform for their families and enjoyed partaking in different games, science experiments, and art experiences with them.





What happened at Heart Prints in January?

Classroom 1 created still life paintings. They painted tree branches they found in nature. The students have been very creative during choice time. Students worked together to build a marble run. They enjoyed dressing up and helping a sick Elephant and Piggie.



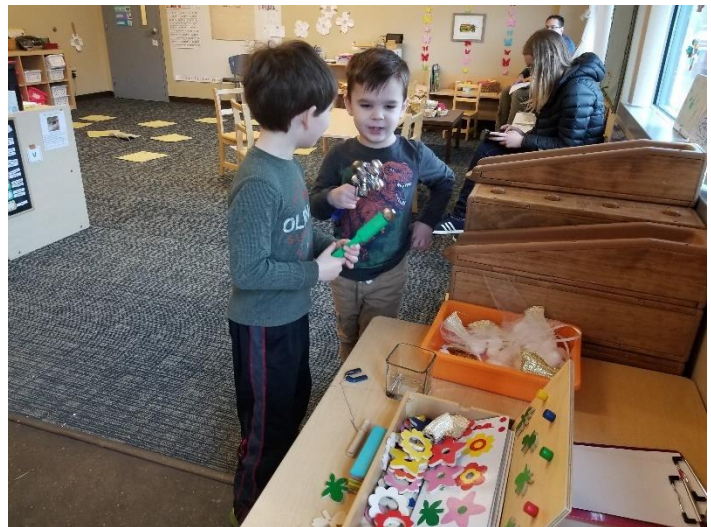
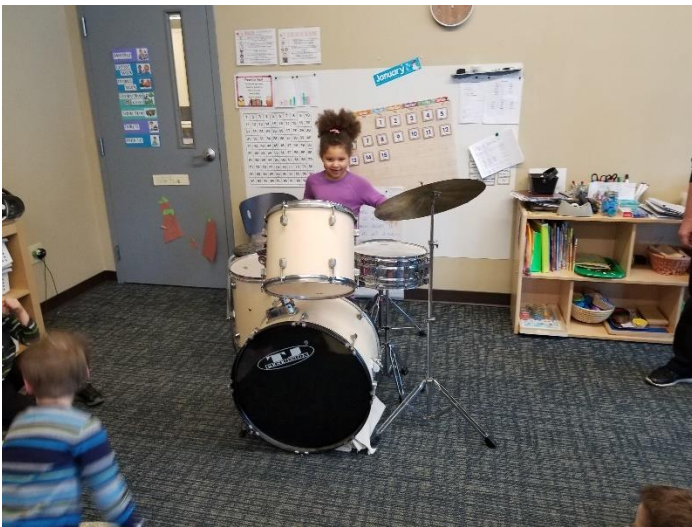
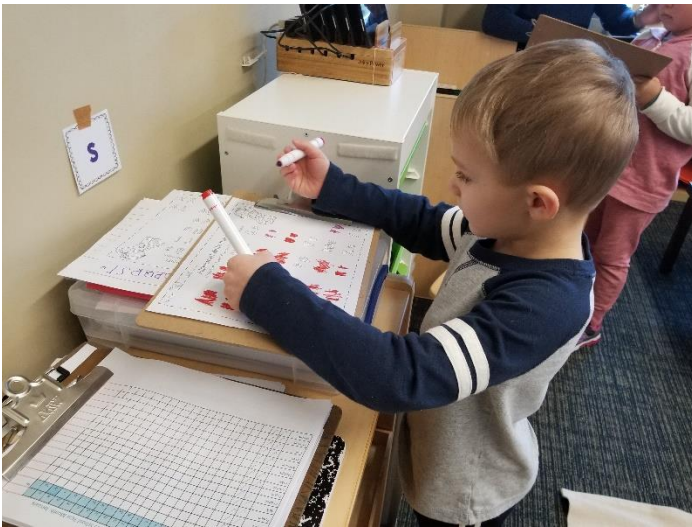


Classroom 2 has been doing lots of building this past month. The students have been constructing with tinker toys. They have been building their own mazes with blocks and toilet paper rolls and creating boats with different materials such as popsicle sticks and aluminum foil.





Classroom 3 finished making their games. The students taught their classmates how to play their games. Each student had the chance to play all of the games that were created. The students have just started learning about and researching different animals. They will choose an animal they are interested in and create their own informative animal story. A special guest that visited classroom 3 this month was a drummer. All of the students took turns playing the drums.





The afternoon class practiced measuring with Legos. They used a ruler to measure different sized Legos. The students created still life paintings by observing a vase filled with branches and using those colors only to create their paintings. The students also created slime bubbles and had fun at Winterfest participating in a snowball game.





Research Spotlight

Focusing on Artwork in the Preschool Classroom

Starting at a young age, many children love creating artwork. Young children should always have opportunities to create open-ended art. Different materials should be set out in the classroom so that children can create art using materials of their choosing. It is the teacher's job to encourage children's creativity through developmentally appropriate art experiences. Process-focused art as opposed to product-focused art allows children to make mistakes and teaches them that there is no right or wrong way to explore and create. It focuses on the experience and not the end product. Children choose their own materials so that the art is unique and original. There is no sample to follow in process-focused art. To get the most out of art experiences, children should be able to create art at their own pace and in their own way.

"Why Art and Creativity are Important"

<https://www.parents.com/toddlers-preschoolers/development/intellectual/why-art-and-creativity-are-important/>

"What to Expect in Preschool: Art"

<https://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/preschool-art/>

"How Process-Focused Art Experiences Support Preschoolers"

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/tyc/feb2014/process-art-experiences>

"Art Appreciation Helps Young Children Learn to Think and Express Ideas"

<https://edsource.org/2015/art-appreciation-helps-young-children-learn-to-think-and-express-ideas/77734>