



TK Newsletter October 2019

Science: Oceans! We are immersed in learning about ocean plants and animals, ocean habitats around the world, food chains, the properties of water, adaptations and more. We are learning about non-fiction, labeling diagrams and classifying groups of animals. This theme offers many scientific explorations including a visit to Riveropolis, a man-made water cycle/river system that will be set up by the garden. We will experiment with sinking, floating, boat making, and learn how water flows, changes and creates life on earth. The unit will conclude with a visit to the Marine Science Institute in Redwood City to have a hands-on experience by the bay with live ocean animals. We are continuing to learn about our 5 senses, begin a science journal and study the fall season.

Social-Emotional Learning (SEL): We have been focusing on friendship, listening skills, respecting personal space and conflict resolution. We are learning about listening to others and responding appropriately to their words. We are working on using "I feel ____ when ____" messages with each other at school. These are great skills to practice at home as well. This month, we are creating a feelings book and learning about labeling our emotions when we are upset.

Math: Since the beginning of TK, we have been focused on counting with fluency, number sense to 10, sorting and dice games. Number sense and counting are continued studies in TK. Practicing counting out loud up to 30 and counting objects with one-to-one matching are great skills to practice at home. Count toys, beans, cereal, or anything that holds your child's interest. We have also been practicing counting on our fingers up to 10 and backwards to zero. This month, students are learning about defining shapes, the attributes and how to build or draw them.

Literacy: Students have been reading a variety of ABC charts and practicing one to one correspondence, making letter sounds and identifying upper and lowercase letters in different fonts. We are using Handwriting Without Tears for letter and number formation. We are making mini-books that will soon be sent home each week. Please keep these age-appropriate books to use as practice at home. Writing names correctly is a skill that we practice a lot at school. I encourage everyone to practice this at home (using one uppercase and lowercase letters) in many fun ways: sidewalk chalk, writing in mud, cornmeal, sand, white boards, anything big, fun and often!

Sharing

Weekly sharing for all students began this week. The children are very excited and looking forward to bringing things from home to share with their peers. There is a sharing schedule posted in the classroom and I will do my best to remind students. There are many creative ideas for sharing and we are excited to see and experience what your children have to offer. **Please do not send items that are delicate or may break.** Let me know if you plan on sharing a person or animal. Thanks!

Halloween

In TK, Halloween will be celebrated in our classroom on October 31st, after our lunch and recess. Children can change into costumes before our party which will be fun-filled centers including bowling, games and crafts. If you would like to help during our party, or with supplies, please contact our room parent, Jaime Boyle.

Marine Science Institute: Friday, October 25th

Our field trip to Marine Science Institute will be at the end of the month. Students will experience the joy of our SF bay. The teachers at the institute will lead us through interactive centers including catching fish from the bay in a net and releasing them.

We will be leaving campus Friday morning at 9:00 a.m. and will return by 12:00 in time for lunch at school. We need 3 drivers to chaperone on this trip. If you would like to drive, please email me how many students you would be able to take. First come, first served. I will send out a confirmation and the driver's schedule before our big day. There are insurance forms in the office that you will need to complete with a copy of your driver's license and proof of insurance. Drivers will be having a meeting at 8:45 to learn about the trip and driving details. For more information about the Marine Science Institute, check out the website at: [www. http://sfbaymsi.org/](http://sfbaymsi.org/)

Reminders:

- 12:30 dismissal on 10/8, 10/9, 10/17 and 10/18 for Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Pleaes sign up on our school's website
- PE is on Mondays. Running shoes are required.
- Library books should be returned by Friday
- Friday is known as "stuffie Friday" in TK. One small, stuffed creature is allowed to join us at school for the day.