



Preschool Newsletter

9/18/17~9/22/17



Fair doesn't mean same

As an inclusive program, we are very cognizant of the various needs of the individuals in our class. All children are unique and special and all children have different needs. This can be hard for a child to understand and is a concept that we talk about a lot as a group and with individuals. All children need certain levels of support and assistance and our job as their teachers is to learn as much about them so that we can meet their specific need. For example, a child who needs more assistance regulating their body may need to use our sensory room or hammock more frequently than others. This may be viewed as unfair by a child who does not have this need. In an attempt to explain this, we used the metaphor of getting a new pet. Ms. Gemma drew a rabbit on the paper and asked the children what the rabbit needs. They came up with lots of things like a cage, carrots, a water bottle and rabbit food. Ms. Gemma then drew a fish. She started to say that we would get the fish a cage and the children

stopped her. The fish needs a tank, said Keziah. So Ms. Gemma drew a tank. And water, added another child. Oh like the rabbit Ms. Gemma said. NO, they told her, inside the tank. The discussion continued with children laughing when Ms. Gemma suggested feeding carrots to the fish. At the end, the message was clear, just like the rabbit and the fish, we all have different needs.



How do they feel?

Last week, the children played a game called the frame game where they made different feeling faces and we had to guess how they felt. We discussed different scenarios and how they might make us feel and sang the "Happy and you know it" song using various feeling words. This week, the children chose a person from a magazine. The people depicted different feelings. We asked the children to tell us how their person felt and why in a story. Some children were able to respond with the feeling; others told a story similar to their personal experience; still others told more fantastical stories. Don't take your child's story too much to heart...they are not always autobiographical. Children pick-up information from a variety of sources and writing stories is one way for them to make sense of all of that sometimes conflicting input!



Nene at the park!

We couldn't believe it on Wednesday when four of our state birds came swooping down onto the field. The children crept as close as they could to observe the beautiful geese. We talked about their significance and, when we returned to our classroom, we looked up information about them in our books. We also read a story called Tutu Nene. All of the children and teachers were excited to see these creatures and Rally kept reminding us that they were, "Special birds." After we had been observing for a while, Madex suggested that we play duck, duck, goose. Although the teachers had planned on playing parachute games, we ditched our plan to honor his idea and we all had a great time!

