



## Preschool News January 8~12



### **Ocean life exploration begins!**

In preparation for the children's return, the teachers created a boat in the dramatic play area. The children were excited to replicate their pretend train experience by making tickets and hopping aboard. We added ocean life puppets and some children pretended to be the passengers watching while others used the puppets and put on a show. As we get closer to our whale watch, we will play with them more infusing the play with certain rules and language they may hear on the trip.

## Foot painting

The back drop for our boat was created by the children who used sponges to paint the sky and their feet to paint the ocean.



## Soup for snack

We were able to harvest tomatoes, rosemary, basil and carrots from our garden. We looked through a couple of recipe books and decided to make minestrone soup. The children harvested the ingredients and we added some others such as onion, celery, corn and pasta.

The children did all the work of cleaning and chopping the ingredients. When cooking, we give children real knives and cutting boards. The children are taught the difference between a tool and a toy and are shown how to use them appropriately. Each child is given the support they need be it hand over hand guidance or verbal instruction.







## **Patterning**

Understanding and creating patterns are important concepts to learn in preschool. We are surrounded by patterns in our everyday world and it is a concept no longer focused on in kindergarten curriculum. We demonstrated with the children how to make a pattern and discussed what constitutes a pattern. We then challenged the children to work in pairs to create their own pattern. They had to talk to each other and explain their situation. Then, they presented their pattern to the group describing what they did. The children really enjoyed the challenge and we will do this again next week.



## No school on Monday

We took the opportunity to discuss fairness and equality with the children when they asked why we had no school. Ms Gemma and Ms Abby demonstrated how people with different skin colors can be friends. We read a book about Martin Luther King Jr. and one about Rosa Parks...the children were truly enthralled!

