



February 29, 2008

In the classroom this week...

This week began with a revisiting of the painting box stocked with a supply of bright-white paper and dark violet, light-absorbing paint. The children created dark designs on glowing paper, and many tried to incorporate zig-zag, curvy, and dashed lines or dots. Some even attempted to block all light from the white paper in a methodical coating of the entire surface in purple. No mean feat as the brushes supplied were $\frac{1}{2}$ " or less in width!



Tissue paper was introduced as a medium for creating torn paper art. While some attempted to construct recognizable elements such as flowers, submarines, or suns, many found satisfaction in using glue to coat overlapping pieces of various colors to see how they mixed on paper. It was fascinating to



see the variety of textures children could achieve by crumpling or raising pieces off the surface. Thanks to Fanya DeForrest for helping with this. On Wednesday, the morning



group travelled to the Animal Shelter to deliver our donations of blankets, towels, food, and treats. Needless to say, this was a trip full of laughs and sighs as children petted kittens and cats, and held their ears and noses while the fed our school-made treats to the dogs. Given their

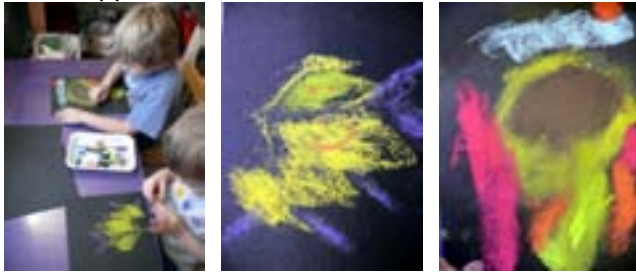


wishes, many children would have gone home with a pet or several. Thank you to Caroline Storm, Paula Kulhanek, Shannon McBride-

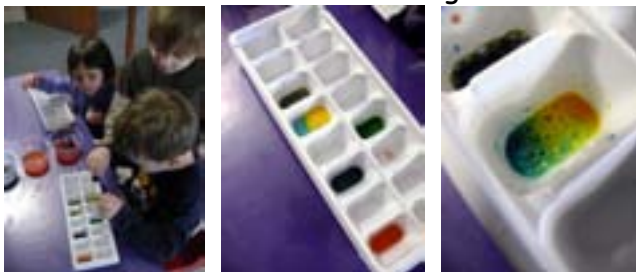


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Morin, Emilie Otis, and Noe Ramirez for driving and assisting on the trip. Our donations were much appreciated. As the week went on, we



introduced more materials and processes. Children explored chalks and finger blending to create images. They were not put off by colored digits, and worked for long periods of time to draw and shade many different subjects. On Thursday, an experient station was added to the art studio using colored



vinegars and baking soda to react in the compartments of ice cube trays. They were intrigued to see the bubbling and mixing of color happen and some made potions with 'magical properties'. On Thursday morning, Geoff Coble was back to continue taking apart the laser printer with a group of children.

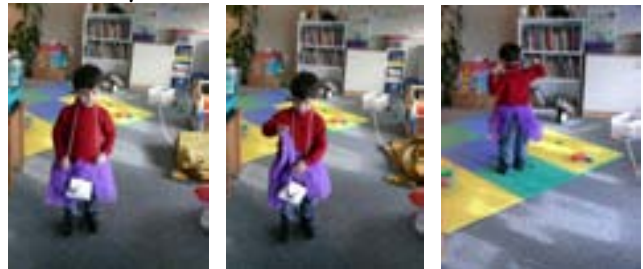


They made headway as they broke into the center of the machine to discover circuit

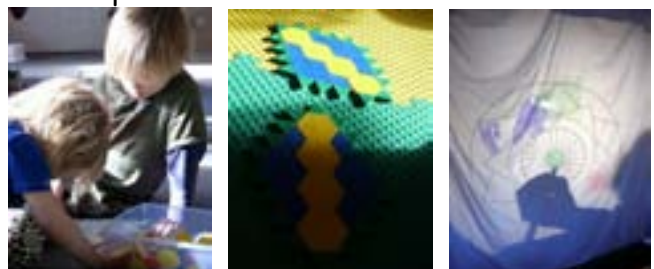
boards 'like cities' with many unique electrical parts. Plans are laid for connecting a battery to many of these to see what they can do when 'powered up'. At weeks end, drip painting with watercolors and eye droppers was a new way



for children to use a familiar material and to perfect their aim. The splashes of color mixed to form some beautiful hues and the final 'drip' as the paintings were held upright to drain added another effect. Throughout this week, creativity and collaboration abound. Children



transformed themselves through dress-up and costumes. It was fun to see the joy they experienced as they donned outfits from the dress-up area. Collaborative construction



took place, and the negotiation and problems



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solving skills showed definite strengthening and improvement over the course of the year. Next will bring a look at the 'splatter-painting' technique of Jackson Pollack, Cooking with Claudia, and much fun!

Thank You to Our Donors!!

Meet our recent donors! Their tax-deductible contributions are essential to KKELC. In 2008 these contributions will: pay operating expenses (staff salaries, rent, utilities), expand our children's and family library, sponsor KKELC field trips, provide fun and interesting learning tools in the classroom, allow KKELC to build a loft, keep families up to date on KKELC goings-on with quality digital photos of kid-created projects, bring local celebrities to KKELC with their songs and dance moves and more. THANK YOU!

Alaska USA Federal Credit Union
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Adam Bauer
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Haines-Glasman Family
Jenny Martin
Kulhanek family
Lolita Brache

McBride-Morin Family
Otis Family
Peek Family
Sharon Tobin
Storm Family
Sue Fallon
Anonymous

Parent Co-Op Time! A few important updates:

6 hours per family or parent time is required as part of the Kachemak Kids co-op program (in the Parent Handbook). As stated in a letter home, starting this month: **if you're unable to fulfill your 6 hour co-op commitment, you may "buy out" any unfulfilled hours at the rate of \$20 per hour** to be added to your next bill. Families are encouraged to participate in the program. Be sure to log your time on the new bulletin board by the door.



Work Party March 15 & 16th at Kachemak Kids! Mark your calendar, and join us for a few hours or 1/2 a day on Saturday or Sunday if you can. We will be moving things to a new storage unit, finishing some inside carpentry and fix-it projects, organizing and a deep cleaning of Kachemak Kids. This is a great way to earn a couple or even all your parent time hours in one shot! More to come on this later.



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PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

KKELC will be closed on Friday, Mar. 28th, and Friday, April 4th for Parent/Teacher conferences. We will be scheduling $\frac{1}{2}$ hour conference time slots from 8:30-11:30AM and 12:30 to 4:00PM on both dates. A sign-up will be available beginning Monday, Mar. 10th

CHANGES BEGIN THIS MONDAY, MAR. 3rd

Starting next week, we will begin serving breakfast until 8:30AM for full day children. Oatmeal, fruit, yogurt and juice will be available. Remember that we will be closing at noon on Friday as well.

INSPIRING PARENTING BOOK AVAILABLE

We have many copies of The Parent's Tao Te Ching - A New Interpretation available for \$14.00 each. If you are interested, ask to see a copy of this book offering "Ancient Advice for Modern Parents".

ATTENDANCE SIGN-IN IS ESSENTIAL

Please be certain to sign your child in each morning. Accurate attendance recording is essential for our participation in State programs. Thank you!

WE NEED WOOD SCRAPS AND MORE

We are in need of some items that you may have:

- Small wood scraps (thin plywood, and multi-shaped pieces such as dowels, rods, square stock, etc.
- Colorful fabric strips
- Colored Cellophane/Mylar
- Wires of all gauges
- Buttons
- Other small pieces suitable for collage

SAVE THE DATE:

On Tuesdays, Mar. 18th, April 22nd, and May 20th the class will be travelling to Wynn Nature center from 9:30 to Noon for outdoor programs lead by Wynn staff. *Children not in attendance on Tuesdays are welcome to come to Wynn with a parent to join us.*