



March 21, 2008

In the classroom ...

Treehouse construction has continued with the addition of more models and the creation of a bridge and several ladders to allow access from the ground to the houses and from house to house. The children have enjoyed imaging what a small person would feel like climbing into the houses they created, and they use their fingers to demonstrate how a mini person would climb and the path they would take.



This process has offered a great opportunity to explore number symbols through using and reading a tape measure, and counting ladder rungs, tree houses, and bridge planks. There has also been some decoration added in the form of a 'Jolly Roger'. Interest continues and work will proceed until everyone has added to their satisfaction. Also introduced was a



partner's project that paired up children to paint each other's portrait. The twist is that one child sat behind an acrylic sheet while the

other matched skin, hair and eye color while using their partner's face as a guide. It is both fun and impressive to see them at work, and it has been enjoyable to listen to their



conversations as they worked. Many of the portraits are displayed in the classroom. Stop and take a look the next time you are in the classroom. The shadow screen and blocks have



seen a resurgence in interest as of late with some very detailed work and elaborate themes emerging. Along with this, there has been much dramatic play involving pirates this week. The children have dressed in costume and have docked their ship in the front corner of the classroom. Jane worked with children to make



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mornings reading and playing along side the children. They enjoyed sharing their favorite activities and having another adult involved in



eye patches to enhance the experience. Magnets were introduced to the group this week, and children were intrigued as they explored the invisible forces that attract and repel. They were challenged to put to words



their play. Finally, we have had a couple of field trips in the past two weeks. First, we travelled to the Haas Studio to partake of a dance and movement class lead by Dianne Ditton. Many of the children know Dianne and



why they thought that the magnets pushed or pulled each other. No one could offer a concise answer though they believed that the forces were there 'because they are special' and because 'they are on a pencil'. Regardless, many children explored the magnet's many properties. We were lucky enough to have many guests of the past two weeks. Lindsey



are familiar with her songs and routines. They were joyful, focused, and skilled as they followed her directions or engaged in guided improvisation. Early this week, we went to the Wynn Nature Center to join Beth Trowbridge as she helped us to explore winter animals and tracks. We snuggled up in the Wynn cabin for



Beatty's grandmother spent parts of the day with us last week and the children were thrilled to

have a dedicated reader in the classroom. Lolita Brache, a board member and friend to many of the KKELC children spent a couple of



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a story and activities/exploration of animal tracks, then we headed out for a snow walk to view and identify tracks in the woods surrounding the cabin. The time ended with a creation of winter animal den construction using a variety of materials.



CHECK THOSE EXTRA CLOTHES!

Please check to be certain that your child has a full extra set of clothing at school. With the warmer, wetter weather we find that kids often need to change after outdoor time. The extra set can be stored in a labeled Ziploc bag in the changing table drawers located in the large bathroom. Thanks.

KKELC/Head Start Yard Sale

Mark **April 12th** on your calendar as we raise funds for KKELC. We could use your help setting up, pricing, making sales, and cleaning up following the sale for Parent Time credit!! Please bring any items you would like to donate to KKELC before the sale. Clean up your clutter and help fund the good work at Kachemak Kids!

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

KKELC will be closed on Friday, Mar. 28th, and Friday, April 4th for Parent/Teacher conferences. PLEASE SIGN-UP inside the classroom for your conference or call to check availability and nab a space. **PLEASE PLAN TO ARRIVE ½ HOUR BEFORE YOUR CONFERENCE** to provide care for the child(ren) of the family conferencing just before you. This cooperative approach will earn you 'Parent Time' and allow children to accompany families to school during conferences.

SUPPORT THE TOWN SQUARE PROJECT!!

Our vision of KKELC being a part of the core of our community in the proposed Town Square development will move closer to reality with your vote of **YES** for the project. Thank you for taking the time to support our dream!

UPCOMING PROGRAM EVENTS

- WYNN NATURE CENTER VISITS
 - Tues., April 22nd
 - Tues., May 20th
- DIANNE DITTON MOVEMENT
 - Fri., April 9th

If you do not attend on Tuesdays, you are still welcome to accompany your child to the Wynn Nature Center. Friday movement class with Dianne Ditton is limited to Friday attendees only.



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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**