

February 2018 Giraffe Newsletter

THANK YOU TO:

Our special readers: Colin's mom and his two sisters
Our play dough makers: Stuti B., Alexis M., Jen D. and Sarah C.
The Wayland Town Librarian for reading to us
Luke W. for the yummy birthday snack
Teacher Pat for teaching us some special Valentine songs

Theme: PETS

Since so many of our students have had a strong interest in cats and dogs this year, we thought it appropriate to learn about pets. We created a pet store in our dramatic play area of the classroom filled with "Beanie Babies", beds, food, dishes, leashes and a cash register. Our block area became a park to walk our pets. We used recycled materials to construct and paint pet houses. We made our own little critters out of socks with stuffing, painting them and putting hair and eyes on to them. We measured each other with dog bones, weighed cats and dogs on the scale, and graphed our favorite pet. We talked about how to care for a pet if we owned one and, created bags of pet food with ripped paper and wrote the label for it. Later, the pet store became a one stop "grooming salon" for all our pets. The animals were bathed, brushed and their toenails were painted all kinds of colors. We practiced folding Origami dogs, spelling animal names with magnetic letters, making animal puppets with paper bags, and drawing our favorite pet in our journals. To finish up our theme, the children got to pick and vote on a name for our new Beta Fish. He lives in our classroom and his name is "Zippy". He is enjoying his new home here at The Children's Way.

FAVORITE BOOKS AND SONGS

Our most popular song for this theme has been: "BINGO"

Perros! Perros! Dogs! Dogs! by G. Foglesong Guy

Children Make Terrible Pets by P. Brown

A Fish Out of Water by H Palmer and P.D. Eastman

The Three Little Guinea Pigs by P. Kavanagh

Clifford's Puppy Days by N. Bridwell

Valentines was celebrated with many fun activities, including making cards, decorating bags, making red Jell-O and eating it, tracing and cutting out hearts, and of course wearing pajamas. Everyone had fun reading valentine stories and playing "Guess who is hiding in the sleeping bag?"

Along with our Valentine fun the children chose to learn about Castles, Kings, and Queens, so for the last few weeks we have played all things Royal and plenty of dragons too. We will share much more with you in our next newsletter.