



Hello Giraffe Families,

Happy New Year! It was a fun-filled first week of 2021 in the Giraffe Classroom. This week, we focused on Winter. Throughout the classroom, there were a variety of winter activities. Students practiced their cutting skills making paper snowflakes out of coffee filters and painted on tin foil. We created edible snowmen using marshmallows, pretzel sticks, and edible markers! We used tangram pattern blocks to make different pictures such as caterpillars, cars, and trains. The giraffes also had the opportunity to use their watercolor paints to paint mittens, snowmen, and houses.

At circle time this week, we read stories about having fun in winter. Some stories we read were *Six Snowy Sheep* by Judith Enderle, *The Jacket I Wear in the Snow* by Shirley Neitzel, *The Biggest Snowman Ever* by Steven Kroll, and *Snow Dance* by Lezlie Evans. The students helped build a giant paper snowman that was taller than all of the students. We showed off our favorite "Snow Dance" moves, and helped match pairs of mittens together.

We spent lots of time outside this week! The students loved working together to build in the sandbox and move the tires around the playground. Before the snow melted, the giraffes worked together to create miniature snowmen on the tables outside. We played some large group games like "What Time is it Mr. Fox?" and "Red Light, Green Light".

We would like to say a special thank you to everyone for the generous teacher gifts. We appreciate all of you and are very thankful to spend our time with your children! As we move into next week, we will be talking more about winter and the different animals that enjoy the winter weather.

Sincerely,
Dominique, Jeanne, Olivia & Carrie