

Dear Kids Klub Parents,

Happy New Year! In the month of January we will be welcoming in the New Year and exploring the wonders of winter through Science, Technology, Engineering, Math and of course Art - It is Full STEAM ahead at Kids Klub. We will not let the Covid Virus slow us down when it comes to learning. Each class will continue its full schedule of learning experiences and if the children can't rotate to science or other lessons those lessons will come to them. 2021 is going to be amazing, fun and full of learning.

Your children will be reviewing the letters Aa-Oo which they learned in the first months of this school year and will be working on the letters Pp, Qq, Rr, and Ss this month for our weekly language arts focus. Letters, phonics and reading skills will be built throughout Kids Klub in library time which happens throughout each day starting at Circle Time as well as before or after each learning experience, at snack time and even lunchtime as well as right before naptime and at the end of the day. They will also build vocabulary and reading skills during our science classes, music and movement time as we incorporate Yoga Stories and poses into our movement lessons and learn rhythm and beat as we listen and move to music. Kitchen creation sessions, Hoppy's Home, Hoppy's General Store and Hoppy's School playtime, all offer many opportunities and experiences for vocabulary building as the children express themselves throughout their activities and as our amazing teachers expand lessons by asking questions that require thought and planning to answer or they create challenges that need to be solved individually or as a group. As the teachers set up the learning scene for each lesson the opportunity for building vocabulary through role play emerges.

We will be reviewing our numbers 1-10 for our 2 year olds, 1-17 and learning 18, 19, and 20 for our 3 year olds and advancing to even higher numbers with our 4 year olds classes. Our math lessons will continue throughout Kids Klub as your children explore Puzzles & Manipulatives, Kitchen Creations, Science, Sandbox, Blocks and Trains learning sessions and participate in counting, patterning, spatial awareness, measuring, graphing, sorting, fractions and other math skill building activities.

Your children will be creating wonderful works of art such as: snowflakes, polar bears, friendship quilts and many more wonderful creations that allow creativity and self expression but also reinforce our weekly and monthly themes and learning concepts. When they experience Kitchen Creation they will be measuring our their own ingredients, mixing and making their own playdough and then creating polar bears and penguins, snow cones, igloos and icebergs and more.

Our Science focus this month is the Arctic and Antarctic and the Polar Bears and Penguins that live on the ice in these regions of the world. Funny Penguins of the Antarctic that waddle when they walk and the big beautiful Polar Bear that lives on the Arctic ice will fill our science lessons with wonder and amazement as your children learn about the habitats these animals live in, what and why these animals look like, what their babies look like and what sounds they make. We will talk about how we can make a difference here at home to help preserve the beautiful Arctic and Antarctic and all the animals that live there. It is truly a magical month of learning all about the natural world. In addition, this month's science will be full of different hands-on learning experiences and interesting lessons about different types of animals and how they navigate winter weather through hibernation, migration or weathering the cold weather with extra fur, blubber or other means of keeping warm. We will also be introducing the lesson of camouflage and how the coloring of animals helps protect them. We will be heading outside to observe and study pine trees, pine needles and pine cones and learning about how evergreens stay green all year long where other plants and trees turn colors in the Fall and lose their leaves. We will also learn about magnets, making sounds and musical rhythm and beats.

In Social Science Lessons this month the children will also be making Friendship Crafts in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King and learning how to measure and count as they make friendship pasta necklaces in honor of MLK and the letter Pp. They will be learning about cultural diversity, equality, freedom for all and peace as we honor Dr. Martin Luther King. Just a reminder, Kids Klub will be closed in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday.

Please take time to review your child's learning experience at Kids Klub and use this information to further the learning experience at home. Ask specific questions about each day and let your child share the exciting day they had at school. We hope you enjoy reading about what your child will be learning each and every day at Kids Klub.

Bambi Wojciechowski
Curriculum Director



Monthly Theme: It's A New Year and the Wonders of Winter

WEEK 18

Weekly theme:

Animals in winter
Color: White

Letters: Pp and review Aa - Oo
Shape: Snowflake

Numbers: 18, 1-17 review
Pattern: ABAAB

Circle Time:

Review all that we have been learning this whole year so far. Review Classroom Rules, Good Hygiene, Personal Space/ Social Distancing, Good Manners, Zoo Phonics, calendar, numbers, names, letters, colors, winter time, temperature, hot/cold, thermometer, hat, mittens, snowmen, hibernation, and migration

Songs:

12 Months in a Year
Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter
The Colors of the Rainbow
Were going on a bear hunt
One lil Two lil Snowflake

Books:

Themed Books about Winter
Snow and Ice
Polar Bears
Animals in Winter-Hibernation & Migration

Art:

Mon: Snowflake fun with Coffee Filters, Popsicle Sticks, Paper Strips, How many can we make?(different textures)
Tues: Snowflake collage and Pipe Cleaner Creations (promote verbal language)
Wed: Shaving Cream, Glitter and Glue Creations - Arctic/Antarctic Landscapes with sparkling snow and beautiful icebergs
Thurs: Igloo creations - Painting with q-tips, square by square a lesson in Shapes, Design and Fine Motor Development
Fri: "Snow" Ball Creations with Cotton Balls - Polar Bear, Snowflake, & Snowmen (develop fine motor skills)
Pm Art: Lace ice skate (Fine Motor Skills Eye-Hand coordination & creativity)
Finger-painting with White, Blue and Glitter to Create a Snow Scene with Snow Animals

Balance & Coordination:

Crawl through igloo "tunnels" and slide on "ice" on your belly, hop in the ring "icebergs" from iceberg to iceberg, balance on the snow-covered balance beams - make a crazy winter obstacle courses and go round and round. Then have an "ice cube" in the spoon relay race walking as fast as you can without dropping the "ice".

Blocks & Lesson 1: Plan and Build block "igloos" and caves for animals that live in the snow and ice (cooperation-enhance science lessons)

Trains: Lesson 2: Build Arctic and Antarctic habitats for the Polar Bear, Penguins and Eskimos (promote motor skills)

Dramatic Play Time: Hoppy's General Store, Home and School Lessons: Talk about the Winter Season and how we change how we live when the weather gets colder? Do we change what we wear? Do we change what we eat and drink? What about change inside our homes? Do we turn on our heaters; put warmer sheets on our beds, use blankets and burn wood in a fireplace if we have one? Why do we do this? After this discussion, have fun shopping for ingredients to "cook" a winter meal and caring for the babies by dressing them in winter clothing and wrapping them in a warm blanket. Cook healthy meals with fruits, vegetables, proteins and dairy. Teach the babies all about what you are learning in school and practice your manners when you sit down to "eat" your meals. Have fun role modeling, learning life skills, pretending and playing with your friends.

Kitchen Creation: Wash hands first & then it is Playdough mixing time - Lets make a sparkly batch of "snow" dough white with blue glitter. Talk about measuring and amounts of ingredients needed to make a batch of dough for your class and how much you need if you are making your own batch in your own bowl. Everyone can mix up their own ingredients with their fingers and then have fun creating sparkly snow creations like snowflakes, snowmen, icebergs, igloos and more. Let your creations dry and then take home and package up in a Ziploc any extra dough to take home (measuring, fine motor skills, creativity)

Library Time: Read Winter Stories, Pine Tree and Forest Books, Animals in winter and other fun Winter stories all throughout your day. Read at Circle Time, before each learning lesson, at snack time, lunchtime and right before naptime. End your day with stories and discussions about what you have learned from all the books you have read during each day. Integrate literature into every activity throughout the day that enhances the learning concepts.

Puzzles & Manipulatives: Solve Puzzles, practice patterns and counting with linking manipulatives and improve fine motor skills with thistle blocks creations

Music & Movement: Put out the mat in a social distanced set-up. Breathe deep and Go through all the Poses in one of our Yoga Books. Then have a dance party on your mats to different types of music. Listen to the music and note the different way the music sounds and you're your body moves to the rhythm and beat of each song. Stretch your body to the sky, do your squats down low as your continue to move. Jumping jacks, spin around and have fun.

Science 1: Bring pieces of white paper and crayons with you. Use 5 Senses going on a Nature Walk Outside to study the Evergreen Trees. Study the leaves on the oak and maple trees and then study the pine needles on the pine trees. How do they differ? What do they feel like? Smell Like? Look like? Sound like? Compare the shape of the trees, the bark on the trunk of the tree? Look at the branches and what other items are parts of the tree like pinecones? Now talk about what animals may live in our Kids Klub trees? Can you find signs of where animals live in our trees? Are there still leaves on some of the trees? Do all trees lose their leaves? Does Kids Klub have Evergreen trees in their yard?

Science 2: Animals in Winter Science Video - Learn about animals that live in the harsh habitat of ice and snow and really cold temperatures. Learn the names of the animals and which animals go on living each day in the snow while other animals decide to leave the snow and "migrate" to warmer temperatures while other animals go into caves or dens and hibernate through the many cold months. What does Migrate and Hibernate mean?

Theater: Time to act out all the animals that live in the snow - take turns and see if your classmates can guess which animal you are acting out. Does your animal hibernate? Migrate? Or find ways to stay warm as they live in the snow year around? Next pick your favorite animal and pretend to play in the snow. How does it walk in the snow? Can it climb mountains? Trees? (build self confidence - enhancing our learning concepts through dramatic play)

Monthly theme: It's a New Year and the Wonders of Winter

WEEK 19 Weekly theme: Penguins are funny! Letter: Qq Review all Letters Number: 19, 1-18 review Shape: Oval
Color: Black and White (review and contrast) Pattern: Review ABAB and AAB, ABB with different objects

Daily Circle: Flag salute (English), calendar, Letters, numbers, fruits/vegetables, seasons, months, weather, colors, shapes, songs, and animals (English and Spanish), Zoo Phonics, Review Classroom Rules, Manners and Expectations throughout your day, Introduce Penguins and their Habitat, Continue Animals in Winter Learning

Songs: 2 Little Blackbirds (Penguins)

The Shape Song

Good Morning

Who Came to School Today?

Shake My Sillies Out like a Penguin

Books Themed Books about

Winter

Penguins

Snow and Ice

Animals in Wintertime

Art: **Mon:** Water color painting Antarctic with Penguins (encourage creativity)
Tues: Glue White Ovals and Orange Triangles on Black Paper to make a Penguin
Wed.: Easel paint Outside if Weather Permits (enhance imagination and creativity)
Thurs: Make snow sculptures with shaving cream, glue and glitter
Fri: Cotton ball Polar creations like Icebergs and Penguins and Snowmen- (experience different textures)
Pm Art: Painting penguins - orange finger paint on 1/2 black, 1/2 white paper (incorporate theme)
Letter Recognition Art - Stamping, Painting, Gluing Qq's into a Qq Collage

Balance & Coordination: Outside if Weather Permits - We are a Penguin - Let's try to carry "eggs" on our feet. Practice and then have a relay race- if you drop the egg pick it up and go to the back of the line and try again. Have fun. Next we can only waddle when we walk like a penguin everywhere we go. Make a path and waddle all around it. How fast can you go without falling down? How do other animals walk? Pretend to be other animals and walk on the path? On two feet? On four feet? Pretend Flying? Swimming? Pick your favorite animal and have a relay race once you have practiced these skills.

Blocks & Trains: Lesson 1: Block Building is a perfect STEAM exercise letting children Think, Plan, Collaborate, Create, Problem Solve and see Cause and Effect first hand. Read a Antarctic Book to inspire them and then let them Create an Antarctic Habitat with blocks of all kinds. Let them know that Scientists are always living in Science Stations in this region studying the ice, weather and animals (Penguins, Seals and Whales) that live there. Have them add a Science Station for them to stay at during their visit. Add Vehicles to help the Scientists get around on the ice and in the water and of course add some Animals too. If you don't have enough polar animals that is OK -use this as a teaching opportunity of the greatest kind and talk about what animals you do have and where they would be living (Safari, Rainforest, Jungle, Desert, Ocean, Pond and do they live up in the Tree, Down in the Dirt - in other words what is their Biome or region of the planet earth they usually live and what is their local habitat like if they were not visiting the Antarctic today. Have fun with the children pretending to be on an expedition to study the animals of these regions of our world. (sharing and cooperative play)

Lesson 2: Blocks and Polar Animals - let the children use their imagination and all that they are learning to build on their own the Antarctic imagination and create ways for the animals to get from one iceberg to the next -plan, create, problem solve with your friends.

Dramatic Play Time: Hoppy's General Store, Home and School Lessons: Continue our lessons about the Winter Season and how we change how we live when the weather gets colder? Do we change what we wear? Do we change what we eat and drink? What about change inside our homes? Do we turn on our heaters; put warmer sheets on our beds, use blankets and burn wood in a fireplace if we have one? Why do we do this? After this discussion, have fun shopping for ingredients to "cook" a winter meal and caring for the babies by dressing them in winter clothing and wrapping them in a warm blanket. Cook healthy meals with fruits, vegetables, proteins and dairy. Teach the babies all about what you are learning in school and practice your manners when you sit down to "eat" your meals. Have fun role modeling, learning life skills, pretending and playing with your friends.

Kitchen Creation: Sure wish Covid would go away so we can start baking healthy recipes again. But to be extra safe -Wash hands first & then it is Playdough mixing time - Lets make a batch of dough. Talk about measuring and amounts of ingredients needed to make a batch of dough for your class and how much do you need if you are making your own batch in your own bowl. Everyone can mix up their own ingredients with their fingers and then have fun creating some animals that live in the Antarctic. Let your creations dry and we will be adding them to our shaving cream Antarctic and Arctic Creations shaving cream creations. Please Ziploc any extra dough to take home. (Math, Art and Science lessons combined)

Library Time: Kids Klub is filled with books everywhere in every learning center. Continue to Read Winter Stories, Pine Tree and Forest Books, Animals in winter and add in specific books about the Antarctic this week and compare and contrast what you are reading about different animals, weather, how the animals and people adapt to the winter weather and what the landscape looks like. Enjoy these reading times and discussions all throughout your day incorporating the lessons and themes into everything the children are doing from making playdough to building with blocks - these are all opportunities to teach and make connections in all types of learner. Read at CircleTime, before each learning lesson, at snack time, lunchtime & right before naptime. End your

day with stories and discuss about what you have learned from all the books you have read during each day. Build on & connect themes from week to week.

Puzzles & Manipulatives: Manipulatives are meant to be touched, moved, and handled to allow children to build math skills and solidify understanding. Young children need very concrete real objects to learn from and using more than one object/manipulative set helps your children understand the concept more deeply. Counting, sorting, patterning, adding and subtracting all come to life with manipulatives. Let children explore and play with the manipulatives first then give them a problem to solve or pattern to build. This week Solve Puzzles to build spatial and problem solving skills – with the older children – mix two sets of pieces from 2 different puzzles and have them solve both puzzles at the same time to add extra challenge to their problem solving and spatial skills, practice patterns with multiple teaching toys like linking toys and work on counting as you build the patterns with them. Most of all make learning fun!

Music & Movement: Outside if weather permits – with all this Covid stress in our world – lets relax first by reading a Yoga Story with everyone on their own socially distanced yoga mat. Breathe slow and deep and Go through all the Poses in the Yoga Story or two you have chosen. Have each child try to roll their own mat up – this is good motor skill building and teaches them to clean-up and care for their things. Then it is arctic fun time as the children take turns aiming the balls to knock down the “Ice Cubes and Ice Blocks with the barrels of fish and the cute little penguins on top. 2 tries and then have that child set it all up again however they wish and let the next child take 2 throws to try and knock it down. If they get it on first try, have them toss the ball the second time and practice aiming at something they choose. Coordination building at its fun-est! Then it is follow the leader time around the yard or room – each child gets to lead the group for a few minutes then have them head to the back of the line and the next child leads the line. No stopping – it keeps going and going until it is time to move on your next lesson. The children can lead around the yard over and under things, in fun dance moves, stop to do exercise moves like jumping jacks or even sit-ups or whatever their imagination wants them to do and have their friends do along with them during their turn. Teachers lead the way and show them a bunch of fun and funny options. Role modeling at its finest the sillier you are the better this lesson will become.

Science 1: Penguins are Funny! Today you will be learning all about Penguins and pretending to be one, You will learn about their habitat, what they eat, how they build nests, care for their eggs, where they live and find food and more. You will learn about the Southern Hemisphere or bottom half of the earth and what the Weather is like there. Some Penguins live in the harshest weather location on the whole planet all the way down on the bottom of the earth on the continent of Antarctica where it is really cold but some Penguins live in the tropical Galapagos islands where it is warm. Penguins come in all sorts of shapes, sizes and colors – there are 18 different kinds of Penguins with the smallest Penguin only 10 inches tall and weighing only 2 pounds to the largest Penguin growing to almost 4 feet tall and weighing as much as 90 pounds. Watching Penguins is so fun. Penguins don't fly in the air like other birds even though they have wings and feathers like other birds but they sure do “fly” in the water. They are so fast as they swim and hunt for food. Have fun waddling like a penguin, seeing how many fish you can catch just like they do in the ocean, and can you carry an egg on your feet just like Penguins do – we will see in your relay race during Science.

Science 2: Penguins are Funny Science Video – Learn about animals that live in the harsh habitat of ice and snow and really cold temperatures, have their babies on the ice and walk long distances to jump in the ocean and fish for food. Some Penguins live like this and other Penguins like the warmer climate but all Penguins live in the Southern Hemisphere. Build Vocabulary, See photography of real animals and watch how they live, listen to them communicate, and learn all about the way they live. I sure wish we could bring a live Penguin into Kids Klub but that is not possible so thank goodness for educational science videos that let us learn.

Theater: Practice your penguin walk, can you waddle, carry an egg on your feet and dance like Mumble in the movie Happy Feet? Put on a Penguin Show with each child being the “star” on the “stage” for a moment showing off their Happy Feet moves. Have the class then try their moves. Have a Penguin Dance Party and then dance like your favorite animals that you have been learning about. (Self-esteem building and solidifying learning themes all in the course of a few dance moves – enjoy)