

St. George Classroom News

January 2012



In our classroom this month...

Our friends have been baptizing babies, racing around rainbows, and fixing the forest. In preparation for the Feast of Theophany our dramatic play area was set up with a baptismal font. J, and K decorated it with several Crosses, and then Jo and V filled it with water. Everyone loved pretending they were godparents (Nonos and Nonas) helping to baptize our baby dolls. We continued to work with water learning the water cycle song and blending the 7 colors in the rainbow out of just 3 primary colors. From Water, Rain and Rainbows we moved on to the topic of Rainforests: creating a Canopy, Understory, and Forest Floor in our classroom. We filled our rainforest with creatures to care for, play with and imitate. We have learned that: tropical rainforests cover only six percent of our Earth, but they are home to two thirds of all the species of plants and animals in our world. Over the last 100 years people have cut down half of the world's rainforests; trees are important for us to have oxygen to breathe, and that rain is important for us because our bodies are about 70% water...So now we understand that rainforests are important and why we should be taking care of them and protecting them from deforestation. Remember Psalm 23 (24):1 "The Earth is the Lord's and its fullness, the world and all who dwell therein". We are all called to be stewards of the earth.



Dates to remember:

- 1/25 Early Release ½ Day
- 2/1 Field Trip to Acton Children's Museum
- 2/20 – 2/24 Winter Break
- 2/29 Early Release ½ Day

Try this at home:

Read a Chapter book with your child. Reading small parts of a chapter book together allows us to build recall skills, and make new connections to the text each day. We make inferences, predictions, and have to be patient and wait to find out what happens next.



Ask your child...

Where was Jesus Baptized? What are the primary colors? How many colors are in the Rainbow, and how is a rainforest different from a jungle?

Books we love...

This month the kids are enjoying the book *My Fathers Dragon* by Ruth Stiles Gannett. My favorite book this month was *The Great Kapok Tree* by Lynne Chenny. This is a beautifully illustrated tale of the animals in the rainforest telling a man why the trees are so important to us all.