

In the Garden

We see leaves from garlic & flowering bulbs pushing up through the soil around the center this month and we'll enjoy eating some greens from the cold frame, as well as New Zealand spinach from the Twos & Toddler gardens. Work around the garden will be pruning trees, rose plants & grape vines, as well as turning our compost in the chicken yard.

In the classroom

Jan 6-9 — Space: Our Solar System

Activities

- Discuss our solar system & what solar systems are
- Solar system floor puzzle & book
- Write or trace the names of planets
- Order the planets of our solar system
- Color a solar system illustration
- Draw the solar system (or some of its parts) on the chalk board
- Spin the solar system mobiles
- Sing a solar system song while marching around a model sun
- Observe space photos & space books

Vocabulary

- Planet
- Solar system
- Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune
- Sun
- Moon
- Asteroid belt

Objectives

- Familiarize with the concept of solar system
- Identify & name the planets of our solar system
- Complete a solar system floor puzzle
- Write or trace the names of planets

Jan 13-16 — Space: The Moon

Activities

- Discuss & write or order the phases of the moon
- Moon story: Mani & Bil (Jack & Jill)
- Discuss moon imaginings: Asian rabbits, Kokopelli (American SW), “man” on the moon
- Trace & cut-out moons
- Use various sized & shaped stones to create craters in sand in sensory bins
- Gail Gibbons’ moon book

Vocabulary

- Moon
- Lunar phases:
 - new
 - crescent
 - quarter
 - gibbous

Objectives

- Name and order the phases of the moon
- Use fine motor skills to trace & cut out moons
- Write or trace various phases of the moon

Jan 20-23 — Space: Stars & Constellations

Activities

- Discuss what a star is
- Constellation stories: Cygnus/Phaethon; the three hunters, their dog & the Bear (Native American)
- Constellation scopes
- Order planets & phases of the moon
- Constellation tracing/dot-to-dot; write or trace names of constellations

Vocabulary

- Star
- Gas
- Light
- Constellation
- Telescope

Objectives

- Recognize constellations
- Complete constellation dot-to-dots
- Write or trace constellation names
- Paraphrase what a star is
- Explain that a constellation is made up of stars

Jan 27-30 — Space: Spacecraft & Space Objects

Activities

- Discuss comets, meteoroids & asteroids
- View photos of spacecraft; ask & answer questions about them
- Create spacecraft using shapes & glue
- Write or trace #s 1-10 on spacecraft
- Constellation story: Perseus/Andromeda
- Constellation scopes

Vocabulary

- Meteoroid
- Comet
- Rocket
- Satellite
- Space probe
- Astronaut

Objectives

- Explain the difference between a comet, meteoroid & asteroid
- Use fine motor skills to create spacecraft
- Write #s 1-10
- Trace/write constellations



