

Durant Road Preschool Newsletter

April 2011

Durantroadpreschool.com



Ava makes a bird feeder to put outside

We are ready for sunny weather and the end of the winter months. To integrate our spring theme in our dramatic play center, we'll set out sunglasses, visors and garden gloves. Our children will go fishing using construction paper fish and magnets. We'll set up a greenhouse, florist shop and farmer's market.

Our children love to explore with different sensory materials and water. Our sensory tables will be filled with potting soil, dried beans, sunflower seeds, and grass seeds. We'll fill them with water, wash the babies and hang the baby clothes to dry.

Our science area will come to life! We'll observe growing plants and root a sweet potato. The children will do evaporation experiments with water on the sidewalk, make a "tree stuff" collage and cut open apples to determine if all apples have the same number of seeds.

Weekly Reader Topics

**Farm Babies It's Spring
Rhyme Time Earth Needs Help!**

Mark Your Calendars

- 11 Museum visit
- 15 Jelly bean guess winner announced!
- 19 Springtime pictures
- 19 Graduation pictures – 2011 graduates
- 22 Good Friday – center closed

Fun Fridays

- 1 Jelly bean guess game begins
- 8 Wear your funniest, wackiest hat!
- 15 Easter egg hunt
- 29 Plant "Happy Hairies"

Our Specials

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<i>Tumblin' Tots</i>	<i>Computer Class</i>	<i>Spanish Class</i>	<i>Music Class</i>

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

April 10 – 16, 2011

The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration initiated by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. According to NAEYC, it is a time to recognize that children's opportunities are our responsibilities, and to recommit ourselves to ensuring that each and every child experiences the type of early environment – at home, at child care, at school, and in the community – that will promote their early learning.

Programs for young children across the nation celebrate this week. **Durant Road Preschool** will celebrate each day:
 Monday: DRP Handprint Banner
 Tuesday: Planting Flowers
 Wednesday: Center wide Picnic *See Classroom for sign up*
 Thursday: Create your own sundae *See Classroom for sign up*
 Friday: Parents sign up to read



Cole bird watching with the class made telescope

Infant and Toddler Program

This month our children will explore wind, trees, plants, and rainy days.

By experiencing the wind, children begin to understand the wind's power to move things. Look for bubbles, wind socks and kites.

In spring, trees begin to show signs of new growth. The children will see, touch, and smell the changes in nearby trees. Be on the lookout for twig collages and tree pictures.

Young children learn about plants by observing them and growing them in the center. By watching the plants develop, they learn that plants need water and sun. We'll enjoy rooting plants and exploring sunflower seeds.

Spring rains bring the water that plants need to help them grow. The infants and toddlers will focus on rain through stories, games, and songs, and by exploring raindrops.

NC Museum of Natural Science

This month we will meet an amazing group of reptiles – lizards! We will learn about their characteristics and where they live as we see them close up and find out what they feel like.



Happy Birthday

Asana Wright	Jesse Vogel
Rachel Winter	Charles Schlachter
Anaya Morton	Lainey McDermott



Our Music Program

During April our preschoolers will use their gross motor skills as they pretend they are growing seeds to classical music. We'll also learn rain songs, complete with pretend puddle jumping, and some new spring songs.



SPANISH

Bienvenidos a la clase de español!

This month the children will be learning opposites in Spanish through musical exercises. They will also learn the names of different fruits and will sing *cancion del mes* (the song of the month) which is about the fruits they just learned.



Focus On Literacy

Book of the Month

This month our preschoolers will read, *The Tiny Seed*, by Eric Carle. Flower pods burst and send their seeds into the wind, where they meet a few disasters, but end up becoming mature flowering plants.