

Wee Folk in April

Spring has arrived and we are enjoying making new discoveries as this beautiful time of year unfolds right before our very eyes! Throughout the month we will continue to observe the seasonal changes taking place, and the new life all around us!

The focus of our month together will be to explore the wonderful literature of one of our favorite children's authors, **Eric Carle**. We will be reading many of his books and will try to recreate some of his illustration techniques in our project work. Some of the books will also become springboards to other curriculum areas. We will compare both helpful and harmful insects, as we read *The Very Grouchy Ladybug*; and learn about the process of metamorphosis with the help of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. After counting the legs on *The Very Busy Spider*, we will discover that spiders don't have the characteristics of insects, because they are in fact Arachnids! You may notice that our classroom will become host to many different and colorful insects and characters we hope to create from some of these and other favorite Eric Carle books! The children will also be able to handle our many insect puppets, and play with an assortment of insect related games and puzzles. Our climber will be transformed into "Caterpillar Corner," where the children will be able to cuddle a giant-size caterpillar, while perusing our collection of library books!

As a special science experience, we look forward to seeing first-hand the miracle of a butterfly's metamorphosis. When the tiny caterpillars arrive, we will observe them in our butterfly habitat as they eat and grow to ten times their original size, then hang upside down and shed their skins to form chrysalides. Then in just a few days, they will emerge as beautiful Painted Lady butterflies. And when the time is just right, we will set them free on a nice warm day.

Our Bible story this month will find us learning about the days of Noah and God's plan to give his creation a new beginning. We will see how Noah's obedience and faithfulness led to God's promises to his people and the covenant he made with them that we are still reminded of whenever we see a rainbow in the clouds!

As April showers give way to sunny and warmer days, we look forward to more time to run and play outside on our playground. Please remember that it is important for your child to have appropriate footwear to play safely on the equipment. Sturdy sneakers are best for running, climbing and riding the merry-go-cycle.

Special April Days

April 3, 10, 17 & 24: **Alphabet Adventures** continue for letters S, T, U, and W. We will host a Tea Party for Letter T with special sweets and treats. Please keep this in mind when packing your child's lunch on April 10th.

April 23: Election Day - We do have class today!

April 24: Scholastic Book Club orders are due!
This will be the last book order for the school year.
Stock up for your summer reading!