

JANUARY

Welcome City Kids families to the year 2021. We are so excited to share what we have done this month after our very different 2020. In the month of January, we spent our time learning about Japan, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and the new places that we visited on our field trips.

Teacher Myrna

For the month of January, we traveled to Japan for our global destination! We learned that Japan is located on the east coast of Asia. We learned that Japan is the world's tenth largest country by population. During our group discussion, we talked about what we would see if we traveled to Japan.

Vera shared, "They wear different types of clothes"; Luca shared, "there is different animals that live there like the brown bear Teacher Myrna!" Jax shared, "there's mountains!" As our group discussion continued, our students were eager to learn about Volcanoes! We introduced Mount Fuji and made a diagram



that represented each characteristic. We learned that volcanoes consist of a magma chamber, main vent, secondary vent, lava flow, ash, ash cloud, and crater! We also learned that Mount Fuji is one of three volcanoes that is sacred in Tokyo, the capital of Japan. As we



continued our study of Volcanoes we learned to write some of the words and characteristics as we filled out a volcano diagram!



Field trips played an important role as we learned more about our global destination. We visited the Doris Japanese Garden at Kenneth Hahn and the students had a



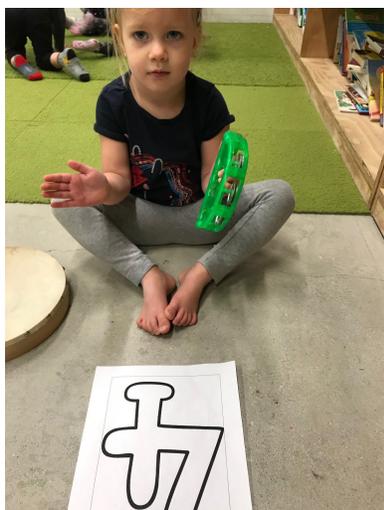
great time exploring and hiking the trail! We also created our very own Japanese cherry blossom tree! We used different color tissue paper to make a gradient! We also made a Japanese flag using party streamers. With the upcoming change in weather we also had fun playing in the rain! We got to play in the water slide outside and got soaked! It was the best day ever! This month we had so much fun and we enjoyed ourselves!



Teacher Barbara



Even when things seem upside down... we always find a way to keep it fun! We start our morning meeting each day with relaxing, breathing, stretching, and Yoga exercises. Using the Reggio Emilia approach from *The Hundred Languages of Children*, we are learning our numbers from 1 to 5 using colors, sounds, body movements, coloring, and playing instruments. We are focused on understanding the value and 1:1 correspondence of our numbers.



We also started a new aerial class with Teacher Kristy and have loved continuing our Zumba classes with Teacher Clara. We would like to welcome our new friends, Jimmy and Jonathan to our class!



Our global destination was Japan!
We enjoyed a month of food with Japanese styles and flavors, we visited some of its cities, we listened to Japanese music, the numbers from 1 to 10 in Japanese! and we color Japan's flag!



Teacher Lourdes

We would like to first start off by introducing and welcoming our new friends, Penelope, Jett, Ella, Thomas and Fisher. This month as we welcome these new students, we have also begun introducing new things, and focusing on building new friendships.



This month we focused on financial literacy. We want our students to understand the value of a dollar and that we have to work for what we earn. This begins with doing our job and then whether or not to save or spend what we make. Our jobs include, peacemaker, librarian, meteorologist, train



conductor/caboose, peace officer, maintenance, and kitchen helper.

During this month, we also visited our global destination of Japan. In order for us to really get to know Japan, our class learned about its culture, music, and significance of the national flower, the Japanese Cherry Blossom. This month, not only did we travel to Japan, but to a variety of nature field trips, such as, Hahamongna Watershed Park, and Kenneth Hahn.



We also were able to experience a very special event that occurred this month, President Joe Biden's inauguration. This momentous time in history was very exciting for us because many of the children knew who he was and his political significance for America.



Teacher Berenice

Welcome Back and Happy New Year! During the month of January, our global destination was Japan. We learned that Japan is an island country located off the east coast of Asia. We learned that



the colors of Japan's flag are red and white. We also learned how to write Japon (Japan in Spanish). In addition,

Chef Carie prepared new foods inspired by Japan for us to try. Some of the foods we tried were Yakisoba, Japanese Curry and a Sushi bowl with miso soup.



Throughout the month we continued to learn and review our letters through identification, sensory bins,

writing and other fun activities. We also worked on our fine motor skills when cutting for a few activities. We practiced cutting straight, curvy and zig zagged lines by giving our popsicle stick people a haircut. Another activity where we worked on our fine motor skills and letter identification was our magazine letter hunt.



The students were given magazines to look through and cut out the letter we were looking for. For Martin Luther King Day we learned about leadership and the dream he had for the world. The students were asked "What do you want to do to change the world?" They got the opportunity to write what they wanted to do and create a craft. Another exciting event we were able

to see and discuss this month was the Presidential Inauguration of Joe Biden and the historical moment as we welcomed Kamala Harris as the first woman to ever be Vice President in the United States. We had a few rainy days this month and we got to play outside and splash in puddles. The students enjoyed playing in the rain.



This month we also had the return of arial class with Teacher Kristy and we continue to have Zumba class with Teacher Clara.



We enjoyed two wonderful field trips. On our field trip to the Japanese Garden, we enjoyed watching the coy fish and turtles in the pond. We also went on a hike and enjoyed our own dirt slide that we found in nature. The second field trip we went on was to Hahamongna Watershed Park where we enjoyed exploring and climbing on tree logs to work on our balance.



Teacher Maria

Welcome to the month of January! We are very happy and excited to be back with our class. This month our Global Destination was Japan. We looked at different parts of the Japanese culture. The children noticed the different kinds of clothes worn in Japan and their vibrant colors. We learned about Mount Fuji, a volcano located in Japan. The children were astonished to learn that Japan is an island country. We learned how to say and write Japan in Spanish (Japón). The children all identified the colors and shapes they saw on the Japanese flag. They even made their own Japanese flag. One of the crafts the children enjoyed was making the Japanese Cherry Blossom tree. This month the children were also introduced to some Japanese cuisine prepared by our cook.



We talked about Martin Luther King Jr. and how he fought for the rights of Black people. We watched his "I have a dream" speech. We discussed that the color of our skin shouldn't matter because we are all the same. We all played the role of being in the times of segregation. The children all shared how they would feel if they were told that they couldn't play together because of the color of their skin. Many children said that they would be sad if they were not allowed to do certain things because of the color of their skin. The children said they were very happy that we all can play together. All the children wrote about a dream that they have to make the world a better place.



As part of our Global destination, the children visited the Doris Japanese Garden. There, the children saw different Japanese inspired structures. There were Cherry Blossom Trees and a small pond. The children were very excited to see the turtles that resided in the pond. They pointed out the koi fish that were in the pond as well. We have discussed that koi fish are part of the Japanese culture and that they symbolize good luck. We continued to explore the garden and then moved on to a hiking trail. The children were all very happy to have seen the koi fish and the Cherry Blossom Trees as it linked to our Global Destination.



We also visited the Hahamongna Watershed Park. This park was a very interactive experience. There the children were able to see different things in nature and even got to run across a Frisbee Golf Course. They enjoyed seeing how the game was played. The children were very interested in the game as they mentioned that they had never played it before. We allowed the children to collect an item from nature to bring back to school. They were very interested in the acorns they found on the ground. They all worked together and collected a whole bag of acorns.



Teacher Dina

Happy New Year, parents! This month we traveled to Japan for our global destination! We learned Japan is located on the east coast of Asia. During our afternoon meeting, we talked about what we would see if we traveled to Japan and we shared the different types of clothing they wear, types of foods and the flavors. The kids attempted to try this month's lunch and were open to trying different flavors.



We discussed the flag of Japan and what colors are in the flag. Field trips play an important role as we learn more about our global destination. We visited the Doris Japanese Garden at Kenneth Hahn and the students had a great time exploring and hiking the trail! We also recreated our very own Japanese cherry blossom tree!



We learned about MLK and his importance in American history. Zora said "Martin Luther King fought for the black people and their rights" This month we had so much fun and we enjoyed learning about history! We also enjoyed mother nature pouring over us!! We love the rain!!! Can you tell?





This month we started learning about Peacocks! Fun fact: did you know that a peacock family is called a peafowl! We practiced writing our names on peacock feathers.

