

April

Hello City Kids Families and welcome to April! We are so incredibly excited to share with you what we did this month. From learning about our global destination, Cuba, to celebrating Spring and Kindness week, April was filled with many fun-filled activities, celebrations and field trips!

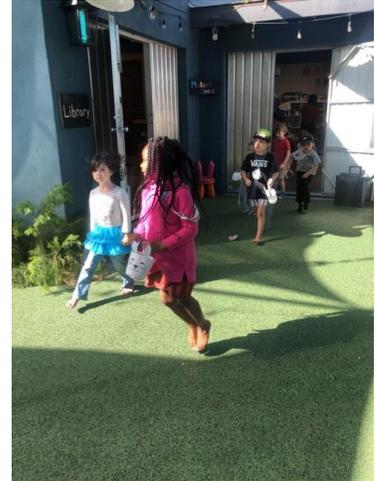
Maestra Dina

Welcome to the month of April (April showers bring May flowers). This month, our destination was Cuba and the kids enjoyed learning about Cuba and it's history. The flag of Cuba consists of five alternating stripes. The children enjoyed coloring the cuban flag. One of the dishes the kids enjoyed the most was "cuban arroz con maiz."



April Activities

This month the children had a spring celebration. We had a spring egg hunt and we ate lots of yummy treats. They created bunny masks and decorated bunny and flower shape crafts. We also learned about Earth Day! How can we help our Mother Earth? The children decided to paint our Mother Earth on paper plates. We also spent a week focused on kindness. We discussed how to be kind to our friends and what choices to make if we are mean to our friends.



This month we also had an amazing time visiting the Arboretum to go hang out with the peacocks and be one with nature.



Teacher Lourdes

Hello parents and welcome to the month of April. We did so many exciting things this month. From working on the STEAM projects, learning about Cuba, to going on field trips and celebrating Spring and Kindness Week.

Spring Celebration

To kick off the spring season, our class did a variety of activities. They created bunny masks, decorated bunny and flower shaped crafts and even went on a Spring Egg hunt.



Global Destination: Cuba

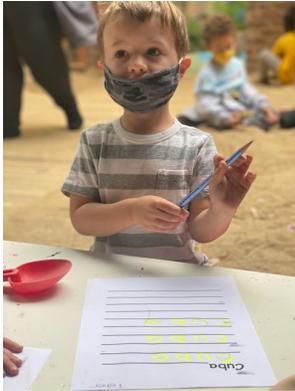


This month we traveled to the beautiful country of Cuba. Cuba is the largest island in the Caribbean. Their national language is Spanish and the most popular sport is baseball.



To begin our study of Cuba, we first looked for it on the map and then created the flag of Cuba. Then we created our own portraits inspired by famous Cuban artist Ricardo Maya. Cubanism is an art approach that resulted in paintings that appeared fragmented and abstract. Cuba was a wonderful country to learn about this month.

Field Trips



This month's field trips included The Arboretum, located in Arcadia, CA. Here we got to enjoy getting up close and personal to some beautiful peacocks and enjoyed seeing plants and flowers that grow in different parts of the world.



April Activities

In April we continued working on our STEAM projects and celebrated Kindness Week. Kindness week taught us about what we could do to not only be kind to our peers and teachers, but also to ourselves. We began the week by creating kindness flowers with words describing ourselves. On Tuesday we created friendship banners and continued the week by finding any opportunity to make kind choices.



Teacher Barbara

April showers bring May flowers, and just like that, it is hard to believe that spring has sprung. During the month of April we explored different topics such as: Earth Day, Spring, Pets and Kindness Week. There were many special moments this month that we would like to share with you all.

Earth Day

How can we help the Earth? This is what the children got to explore as we talked about how important it is to take care of the earth and the reasons why we should take care of it. The children came up with ways that they help earth each day. We talked about the importance of mother nature and how we can take care of it as well. We made earth day headbands to show how we support keeping our planet clean. We also watched and listened to an audio book about Earth Day.



Welcome Spring

Spring is here and the children were excited to learn about the changes that occur during Spring. The children had the opportunity to explore Spring through our Monday Walks. The children were able to see the changes in nature. We talked about how the trees begin to blossom full of flowers and leaves. We talked about how flowers grow during spring and the weather changes. We made spring flowers, bunny masks, and had our very own egg hunt. The children were thrilled about welcoming spring.

Pets, Pets, and More Pets!

For our STEAM project we are looking at animals that can be pets. The children are learning about where and what each animal needs. For example, the children are learning about what each animal eats and where they live in our homes. The children were able to categorize pets from animals that can not be pets. The children learned about the needs of a fish, dog, and cat.



Kindness Week

"Friends, what is kindness?" This is how we began our Erase Meanness campaign and week focused on kindness. The response to this question had many different answers, the most common was "be gentle." As a group we talked about the importance of being kind to our friends and family. We came up with many ideas and reminders that may help our friends remember to be kind to each other. We read different books and we worked together to make a kindness fruit salad, friendship banner, and a kindness flower. During each of these activities the children got to experience working together, using their words, and sharing.



Teacher Myrna



Cuba was our global destination for the



month of April! As we learned more



about Cuba, we taught our students that Havana is not only the capital of Cuba but also the biggest city in the country of Cuba. A few

friends tied in the Havana song by Camila Cabello and enjoyed dancing to it. We



learned more about their culture, traditions and food. We learned that Cuba has the same colors of the flag as the United States. We compared the United States flag with Cuba's flag and we noticed Cuba only has one star compared the United States



flag. We also learned what the flag represents and the meaning of the flag. As we observed the flag, we noticed that there are three blue stripes that represent the three old

divisions of the island. We also noticed that there is a red triangle that symbolizes equality and freedom. Here you see our group painting the flag of Cuba using tempera paint using colors red and blue.

We had a wonderful time welcoming Spring! As we welcomed Spring, we decided to create an inspired spring flower using fun colorful pigments. Each student got to choose a color to work with and we collaborated to create a flower all together. We cut different colored tissue paper and made them into small balls to glue on our flower to



create a flower art project. We had an amazing time learning about Spring and its flowers!

This month was full of celebration! As we continued our spring celebration we had an egg hunt and multiple activities that were full of excitement! Each student received a bunny basket and went out to look for eggs in our outdoor area. Every student was filled with joy. We also got very creative and designed our own bunny hats!

We also discussed Earth Day, where we talked about taking care of our planet and our animals.

This month we also engaged our students in our Erase Meanness campaign! An entire week of April was focused on this campaign that taught our students ways to be kind with one another. We taught our students to replace mean words by using words that are kind and nice. We also reiterated that words are very powerful and how we have the power to change it by using better words. We had daily group discussions about what Kindness represents to them. We asked our students what are kind gestures that we can do to our friends and others? Vera shared, "We can draw them a card with hearts." Josephine said, "We can give all of our friends a hug." Luca shared, "If

someone needs help to problem solve, we can guide them.” Owen added, “We have to be the leaders and help if they need help!”



Teacher Maria

Welcome to the month of April. This month was full of different activities that the children enjoyed. We went on field trips, studied a new country, celebrated Spring, discussed Earth Day, and talked about kindness. The children really enjoyed learning new things this month.

Learning about Cuba



This month we learned about Cuba. We looked for Cuba on the map and the children noticed that Cuba is an island. The children learned that the capital of Cuba is Havana. They also learned about the colors on the flag. They identified the colors Blue, Red and White. They also noticed that there is a triangle and a star on the flag. We continued to learn about the



Cuban culture. We also learned about delicious typical foods from Cuba. One of the things the children enjoyed was learning about abstract art from Cuba. The children then recreated their own portraits inspired by a Cuban Artist named Ricardo Maya. Overall the children had lots of fun learning about Cuba.



April Field Trips

During this month the children went on a hike and visited a few parks. This month the children were finally allowed to play on playground structures. They were all very excited because they would always ask when they could play on the structures again. We went hiking at Wildwood Regional Park. We visited Genesee Avenue Park, Westside Neighborhood Park, and Benny H. Potter Park.





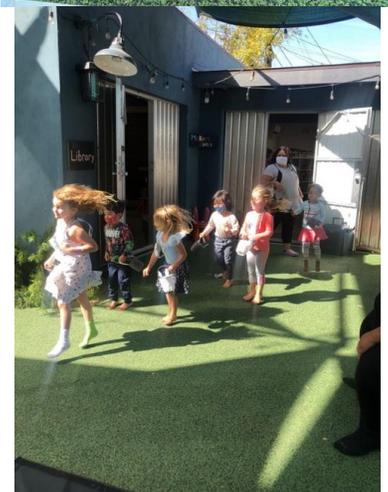
Celebrating Spring



We welcomed Spring with a special Spring Celebration Day. The children had lots of fun making bunny masks, decorating flowers, and going on an egg hunt. It was a day that the children enjoyed and the teachers as well.

Earth Day

This month we discussed Earth Day. We talked about many different ways to take care of Earth. The children learned that they could help by recycling, turning off the faucet when they brush their teeth, turning off light when they are not using them, and picking up trash. The children shared that they make sure that they throw their trash away. Some mentioned that they see trash in the streets and that it made them sad. Other children suggested that they could put trash cans in the street that way people could put trash in the trash cans. We made Earth Day booklets and earth mobiles.





Kindness Week

During this month we incorporated Kindness week. We took the time to discuss the importance of being kind to our peers and ourselves. We discussed in what ways our words can hurt others and the importance of using kind words. The children made Kindness flowers and together they came up with kind words to describe one another. Another thing that the children made were dolls of themselves. During this activity they also chose a kind word that they felt would describe them.



Teacher Berenice

In April our global destination was Cuba. We learned that Cuba is located in the Caribbean Sea. It is the largest island in the chain of islands known as the Greater Antilles. The capital for Cuba is Havana. Some of the children made a connection of the capitals name Havana to the song *Havana* by Camila Cabello. They enjoyed listening to the song as well as Cuban music. We especially enjoyed music from artist, Ceclia Cruz and had dance parties. We learned that the Cuban flag is red, white and blue. We got to paint the cuban flag. We also created a book about Cuba. Carrie, our chef also made some wonderful dishes. One of our favorites was the black beans and

Cuban rice with corn. We also created our own abstract self portraits inspired by Cuban Painter Ricardo Maya.



Spring Celebration

We had a spring celebration where we enjoyed some fun crafts. One of our crafts were painting fork tulips. We also had a special egg hunt where the children received a basket and were able to find some eggs. They had so much fun. We ended our spring celebration with a dance party.



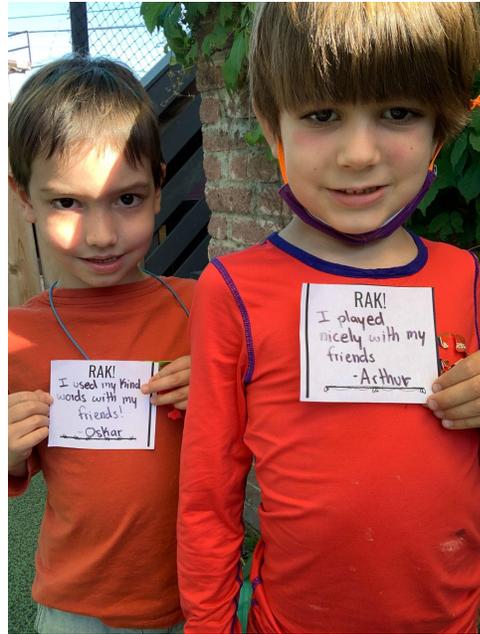
Earth Day

For Earth day we marbled painted the Earth and had a lot of fun doing so. We also discussed ways to take care of our planet Earth. Many of the children shared some of things they would do, such as recycle and hug a tree.



Kindness Week

For Kindness week we discussed the importance of being kind to one another. We made a list of the ways we can be kind. One of the activities we did was make a friendship banner. To earn a treasure box for this week, the children had to share one random act of kindness they had done throughout the week. Many of them shared that they had used kind words to problem solve, shared and helped clean.



Field Trips

We had four wonderful field trips this month. The first field trip was to Wildwood Regional Park. We enjoyed our hike and even made it to the teepee. Our second field trip was to Genesee Avenue Park. There we enjoyed a sunny day. The children were very excited to finally be able to play on the play structures again. We enjoyed climbing, sliding and playing on the play structure with friends. The third field trip was a visit to West Side neighborhood park. We enjoyed the swings and climbing on different structures. Our fourth and final field trip for the month of April was to Benny



Potter Park. We enjoyed playing on some more structures and also made sure to drink plenty of water because of the warm weather.

