



Our Ball Study!

Dear Families,
3/29/21

May is here and we 'had a ball' in our ball study! Over the past six weeks, the children have identified different sports balls, materials of balls, how balls move, and they understand the difference between a circle and a sphere. The children also learned how to play different sports and use teamwork when playing a sport together. The children learned the rules and how to play soccer, baseball, football, baseball, and other sports like bowling, tennis, and kickball. The children also learned games like jacks and marbles.

Besides sports and the physical features of balls, the children discussed what foods are ball shaped, like meatballs, melons, and tomatoes, and learned the difference shape wise from these foods to flat circular foods like cookies, pies, and pizza. The children read stories featuring foods such as *The Doorbell Rang*, where children subtracted cookies as they ate them and gave them away. Other literacy activities they loved included reenacting the story of *Billy Goats Gruff*, and singing the poem/song "On Top of Spaghetti." Through literature and hands-on activities, this study empowered children to become bakers, athletes, scientists, and more as they learned about jobs in the community that are connected to the ball study.

During this study, the children also learned about science, physics and math through playing games featuring making balls roll, bounce, and their materials. The children saw different sports balls cut open or cut in half and looked at them underneath a magnifying glass. And they learned that they can be made of rubber, metal, plastic, wood, and even filled with air or foam. The class also learned about sphere shaped objects in nature, such as geodes, the earth, shells, and seeds.

Lastly, in this study, the children enjoyed voting on the question of the day by copying ball vocabulary words. The children also enjoyed writing about different balls and what sports they liked. The children did so well and are on a great track for kindergarten readiness! The celebration will be to make a giant ball maze in our classroom and paper mache planets from balloons.

Sincerely,
Miss Pat and Miss Laura
Room 4