

October Update!

We have settled into a routine and the children are adapting nicely to the longer school day. They are working hard and I am very proud of all of them!

We have decided on classroom rules to follow and have all signed our name to the list confirming our decision to follow them all year. They are as follows:

1. Raise your hand
2. Listen carefully
3. Follow directions
4. Use kind words
5. Hands to yourself
6. Include others
7. Soft voices

We have begun our unit on Sudbury and Boston by discussing the similarities and differences between the two. The children all have a lot to contribute and are excited about comparing a city and a town. We have also continued our unit on Solids, Liquids and Gases by exploring solids first and defining solids. The children have also had an opportunity to group various solids into categories they chose as a group. The students enjoyed listening to each groups results and seeing the many different ways the objects could be grouped. Our fish have also arrived and we spent a week discussing the fish habitat in the classroom as well as their needs and defenses.

In math we are continuing to count and compare groups of objects. We will begin finding combinations for specific numbers this week. I have completed individual assessments with about half the class and will continue for the next week or two until they are all complete. These assessments will allow me to adjust my teaching to the students needs and group students in various ways to accommodate needs.

I have been calling students to reading groups for a few weeks now. I spend 60 to 70 minutes each day reading with groups while Mrs. Connors, our Assistant, oversees the classroom. The students are working on seat work, reading silently, writing or working in Literacy Centers while small groups are in reading groups with me.

We have a classroom full of budding authors! We have been having Writing Workshops for several weeks now in addition to journal writing and the children are very excited. We begin the workshop with a short lesson, then write and then regroup to share. The children have written about many experiences they have had and love sharing their work at the end of each workshop!