

Growing Tree's March Newsletter

The last few months of the school year are so much fun to observe.

The T-K and Pre-K kids really do believe they run the school (and thereby most of the people in the school.)

There is so much power being wielded and so much jockeying for friendship and status happening; it is tiring just to watch it! Thankfully, these days many issues that arise with bigger kids can be handled among themselves, but every so often the power they possess is ever too overwhelming for them! When one group (usually a duo or a trio) succeeds in making another child cry they really are quite startled by what they just did and are very quick to make amends!

The Threes are still working it all out. Much more sophisticated social behavior; but still quite a bit of vacillation between wanting to be a big kid and not quite being ready to give up some of the "safety" of being a little kid.

The Twos are simply crazy!! They yell, scream, run amok and in general love absolutely every aspect of life and everyone they meet! Theirs is a world we all love to stop by and visit everyday!

Our Tots are blooming, learning and love visiting the 2's rooms! Definitely ready to move on to bigger and busier spaces!

What great jobs we have!

Registration is always a busy time. If you don't hear from us, assume you got the days you requested; if we can't give you your preferred days, we'll let you know what we can do. As the forms come in we number them and that is the order used to put the children on the class rosters.

Currently enrolled children and siblings are guaranteed space and no one from the waiting list will be offered any slots until Monday March 8th. You all have the week of 3/1-3/5 to enroll, BUT if you want specific days, please don't wait until the 5th to turn in your form!

We're never sure we thank you enough for believing in us and letting us share your children! So thank you, thank you, thanks you!

Linda and Lysbeth

DATES TO REMEMBER:

March 1 st – 5 th	Registration
April 5 -9	Spring Break
April 12	Summer camp forms available
May 20	School Picnic
May 31	Memorial Day
June 10	T-K Graduation 5:30 -6:30 PM
June 10	Pre-K Graduation (Pat/April/Nikki) 9:00 – 10:30 AM
June 11	Pre-K Graduation (Lauren/Manal) 9:00 -10:30 AM

(all graduations are held at the Veteran’s Memorial Building in Lafayette)

June 11	Last day of school
June 15 – July 30	Summer Camp

TOTS

What a wonderful fun-filled month we have had in the tots class! Tonia and I have now finished introducing all the primary colors to our tots. The kids have painted all kinds of things pertaining to the color of the week, such as bracelets, golf ball art, and even peeling crayons to bake in the oven to make them a cool round shape. Ana and Nicholas had a great time the other day, picking off colored tape from the door and placing it in all various places around the room! Such a simple yet fun activity for the kids. Circle time gives us lots of opportunities to talk about colors, such as asking what color shoes, or pants they are wearing, what color is the grass, the sky etc. Annalise was in a very playful mood the other day at the snack table. She lifted her cup to Ella sitting next to her and said "cheers!". Ella smiled back at her and they took a drink of water together. Outside in the sandbox, Claire made a great sand cake. She topped it off with a candle in the middle. Nicholas came over and said "ummm cake!". Estella, not wanting to miss any of the fun, came over with a toy alligator so we could sing happy birthday to it. Who knew a sand-box could provide such entertainment? Thatcher doesn't miss a thing. Off in the distance he heard a sound outside. He said "what's that noise?" After looking up for a minute, he saw it. "It's an air-plane!" Shawn and Henry were cracking each other up the other day. They were playing peek-a-boo with each other around the big tree in the yard. So much fun!

This coming month we will learn about where different animals live. One week we will be down on the farm- look for some cute art projects. We will also talk about animals you might find in the zoo, and animals we may have as pets in our homes. We will continue learning primary colors, as well as a few numbers. Congratulations to Estella family! They welcome new-born twins into their home!! A very happy 2nd birthday to Ana this month!! Let another fun month of school begin!!

Tonia and Barb

THE TWO'S

This past month was such a fun month for the children. They loved the whole idea of Valentine's Day, and were so excited when it came time to pass out their valentines. **Nina** expressed that she loves to hug sheep, when we talked about showing our loved ones how we feel. **Sam** replied that he loves to hug, "mommy." **Avery W.** said, "I love my baby brother."

Kieran couldn't hold back his excitement at the sight of Spider Man valentines while **Kate, Avery J. and Jenna** smiled as princess valentines were dropped into their bags. The children sat so nicely as each one of their friends walked around the circle and handed out valentines. They all remembered to say 'thank you' to their friends, and at the end of the day they all took them out of their bags to admire. **Madison** exclaimed as she looked at all of her valentines, "My friends really love me!"

Friendships are growing and from that some adorable conversations are emerging. **Ella** asks **Caroline** at lunchtime, "What are you eating." Caroline answered, "I eat grapes," and **Sierra** added, "I like grapes; black and red." One morning **Archer** was admiring a Star Wars t-shirt that **Luke** had on and said, "If I don't see Star Wars in the morning it makes me sad." Luke replied, "Ya, lets play cars."

Circle time just keeps getting better and better every day. All of the children are so attentive and really enjoy the time. **Trevor and McKenzie** have become good friends and often sit hand and hand together for circle. **Oliver and Jack R.** like taking turns sitting on the 'octopus' circle square because it is the "COOL" one to sit on. One morning **Jordan** stated with great enthusiasm that she wanted to sing "the itsy, bitsy spider." After we were done singing, **Gwen** said, " Now we have to sing the baby, baby, spider." **Macsen** loves to discuss shapes and colors, while **Hannah and Abigail C.** are more anxious to dance.

Playtime is always so fun to observe. **Gracie** will often place her baby doll in the baby bjorn carrier and carry on about the room engaging in various activities with baby in carrier. -So cute!

We had a lot of fun this past month traveling to different countries. **Peyton** expressed with a big smile, I like to go to Hawaii. I like to go to the beach." When discussing the panda bears of China, **Jacob** said, "Panda bears live in China cause it is a big forest and China is far away; you need an airplane and you see the world next to the bridge and the island next to the digger."

-WOW!

"I like pandas, they eat bamboo," **Luca** added. "Me too!" **Lauren** agreed with a big smile.

Our elephants of India struck up a conversation at the art table when Livia said, "Look, I made an elephant, they are big." "Elephants eat plants," **Beckett** added. **Joe** smiled down at his newly painted elephant and exclaimed with a big smile, "Look, my elephant's brown."

Nikki seemed to prefer our Eiffel towers as she pointed to them and exclaimed, "I like the rower right there."

One circle Ms. Senia was talking to the children about how we are all different. **Nina** said, " I have blonde hair." When Ms Senia then asked, "Now who has red hair?" **Erin** answered, "Me, and it is beautiful!"

This coming month we are moving on to two of our most popular topics for discussion and art: dinosaurs and construction. If your children have any dinosaur or construction books we encourage them to bring them in to share with other children during circle. It's fun to share and is a great opportunity for they children to contribute to the learning process.

Cynthia, Senia, Evelyn, Tonia, Barb, and Meghan

March 2010
Growing Tree Preschool
Young Three's

The children are fulfilled as they discover that they truly matter to one another. The confidence they have in the love they know from family is profound, so as they walk capriciously, on the path to friendship they are aware and inspired to do their best. Each day together allowing the evolution of their young relationships which are full of promise and hope. The celebration of love and friendship lent the children the opportunity to express their feelings to each other as we celebrated Valentines Day. The children immersed themselves in preparing their heartfelt symbols of love and adoration for their family members and friends. Chiara, Jila, Keelin, and Cole worked diligently painting watercolor hearts each morning for their loved ones. Keelin shared, "I need to give a special heart to everybody in my family, and they are so special!" As we read stories sharing lessons about love and friendship, the children listened peacefully. As we shared together after the stories the messages of kindness and giving had been felt and assimilated into the children's thoughts. Max offered, "We need to be good to our friends and our family, always!" Nate shared, "We play with our friends!" Everett smiled and whispered, "Friends are silly." Bodie thoughtfully added, "You've got to help your friends out!" Friendship is such a treasured joy for all of the children they are honored to be a friend. As Dylan entered the room one morning his darling smile lit up the entire school, he sang out, "My Mommy and me made cookies; there is one for all the kids!" It was clear those cookies were frosted with love! Naina was sweetly beaming as she offered her treats to the class, "these have sprinkles, and they are chocolate. They will taste so sweet!" Parker and Tigey bounced in with pride offering her cupcakes, "These are the best cupcakes, I made them with my Mommy!" Every child came bearing the sense of love and community as we enjoyed the celebration.

To allow the children an opportunity to build their cooperative skills we enjoyed working in unison to create a beautiful rainbow mural. The children also explored painting as cooperative partners, they were paired up with a pal they might not ordinarily work with, and they then had to find out how to share one canvas together. Initially the children worked quietly individually on their side of the paper, soon the quiet gave way to giggles, smiles, and happy conversation as they mixed their colors and moved their bodies to allow each other to contribute to the painting. Maggie told Liam, "I like that shape you made!" Liam smiled and responded, "Thanks!" His brush touching the paint with energy. Everett whispered to Ryan, "Let's make circles!" Ryan grinned, "Okay, Everett!" Naina was so excited she told her partner, "Nate, Look we get to paint with all of these different colors, this is so neat!" Nate revealed a big smile and looked at Naina, "I know!" Nate grinned as he worked to fill every nook and cranny with color!" Rachel and Nicole had a blast together softly chatting and smiling at one another as they mixed the colors. This open learning experience allowed the children to build social skills and encouraged them to use their communication skills and they all did a great job!

At our Valentine celebrations, the children were beaming each filled with affection and pride as they handed their Valentines to one another, a wonderful offering of friendship. Miss Sharyn and I were amazed by how each child patiently waited for their turn to personally hand their special Valentines to their peers. We truly enjoyed watching their sweet expressions as they did their exchanges. The children are as precious as they offer their gifts of love. We captured some darling photos, too! Tyler and Annie were unable to join us, so we enjoyed extending the celebration when they returned to school. Tyler was so thrilled with the pirate valentine Liam made for him; his Mommy told us he slept with it. Tali made a guest appearance with her Mommy and one of her big brothers, Will; she left us in smiles as she shared her heartfelt offerings with all of us. Annie and Tali reminded me we could perhaps put on some music for the celebrations, so I asked, "What should we listen to?" Tali suggested, "All the Pretty Ladies by Beyonce" and Annie added, "I really like Lady Gaga, too!" We are going to have to update our music collection! The children are so sweet and they feel excited to share their ideas and thoughts.

The children are developing the awareness of their own individual ability to affect in positive and even in negative ways the feelings of others. To help them to gain a sense of their effect on others they explore through play and make-believe. Through their play they can become the super hero the princess, the baby, the parent, the teacher, etc., this is an awesome developmental time for as they grow they come to recognize that they as individual human beings do make choices that impact their lives. Open-ended play

allows the human interactions to unfold amongst them and they learn with the help and guidance of trusted parents, family members, teachers, and peers that their actions have consequences.

Let the wind be at your back and the sun shine upon your face- An old Irish Blessing my Grandparents shared with me :)

Miss Sandy and Miss Sharyn

Older Threes Class

Vicki and Karen

March already!—can you believe it?! Where is the time going? February was such a busy month in the Older Threes Class. We were very excited to have two new students join us: Antonia and Marianna Lawrence. It's so much fun to have two new friends to play with at Growing Tree. We are so glad they came.

We learned about pets in February. Some of us have real pets and some of us have stuffed pets, but we know that we need to always be nice to our pets, just like we are nice to our friends—because our pets can be our friends too. We had many ideas about how to be nice to our pets. “Give her food and Lucia throws her crunchies out of the bowl,” Bianca told us. “And we need to give them a drink too,” added Annabelle. “Pets eat dog food and they could drink water and lick water and they don't like to eat wood,” agreed Wyatt. “Play with them,” thought Cyril. “And only petting and no hitting,” said Charlotte. “And no kicking and no pounding them,” added Zachary. “Not step on them and just don't hit them,” continued Porter. “And be nice,” added Ryan. “Pet them,” said Callen. “And feed him,” added Charlie. “But you could do hand shakes if he knows how,” Reed told us. All of the older threes know how to be good pet owners and take special care of our pets.

We learned about the post office and about valentines because sometimes you need to send valentines in the mail. We made valentine post cards for our families and sent them through the mail—and the mail carriers brought them to our house, and put them right into our mailboxes. “The mailman brought it,” Marianna told us. “It's at my house, but now we can't find it,” said Antonia. We learned about what we need to do to mail a letter and have the mail carrier deliver it. “We need a stamp,” said Ryan. “And an address,” added Annabelle. “And your name—like the person you're sending it to,” continued Bianca. “The name of the street,” Ben told us. “And a number for your house,” added Cameron. “You have to put the city on,” said Christine. “And the state,” continued Bianca. “You write somebody's name and number,” Gavin summed up. Then you can mail it at the post office or you can mail it from your mailbox, like we did at Growing Tree. “Put it in the mailbox,” Cyril told us. “Put the sign up,” said Nathan. “Put the flag up 'cause if the flag is down there's not something in, but if the flag is up then there's something in,” continued Anthony. Sometimes it just goes to the post office and then our mail carrier brings it to our house, but sometimes the mail has to go far away. “It goes far on a airplane,” said Ben. “Or mail can go in a mail truck,” Jack added. “And you have to drive it to somebody's house,” continued Max. It was fun to find our post cards in our mailboxes at home and to see how the mail works.

Valentines Day is always a fun day at Growing Tree. We give valentines to

all our friends to show them how much we care about them. "I get valentines 'cause I like my friends," Liam told us. "You give presents to people because you have to be nice to them," added Ryan. "Or you can give toys to people so they can play with them," Reed thought. "And valentine hearts because it's valentines and a valentine party," continued Charlotte. "You give Mommy a heart because you love her," said Callen. "We make cookies because its valentines because we want to invite everyone to the valentine party," Avery told us. "We make hearts and decorate them because it's valentines," continued Zoe. "And we decorate hearts and it's a special day to give cards to people and our family," shared Christine. "It decorates the house and it makes people happy," said Marina. "And I say 'Happy Valentine's Day' to Mia and to my friends," Julia told us. "And you give chocolate like hearts because everyone loves valentines and then they're happy," said Olivia. We had a very fun time at our Valentine's Day celebrations here at Growing Tree, decorating cookies and passing out our cards.. We want to thank Emily Moehnke, Joni Fazo, Kristi Ives and Jennifer Roberts for the cookies and frosting that helped make our parties so much fun. And a extra special thank you to Kristi who brought cookies in the morning of the party even though Avery was sick that day and not able to come to the party.

February was also the beginning of the Year of the Tiger and the celebration of Chinese New Year, and we had a weeklong celebration in the Older Threes Class. "It's the Year of the Tiger and there's pandas in China and they play with each other," Nathan told us. "And people give gold coins and oranges," continued Olivia. "We ate an orange," said Gavin. "We eat gold fish because it's gold fish," continued Harshal. "Because it looks like gold," added Julia. "Because it means we're rich," continued Christine. "We're rich in friends at Growing Tree," said Jason, "and people eat long noodles because it's Chinese New Year." "So they can have long life," explained Annabelle "They have golden oranges to eat because they want it golden," added Anthony, "and the lions dance in your face." "The lions dance," agreed Gavin. "And the lions are walking around," Wyatt told us. "Rabbits are special because that's a year again," said Ben. "And the dragon and the pig and the snake are years," continued Annabelle, "and we painted a dragon and it's the Year of the Tiger." "We made Chinese lanterns," said Marina. "And oranges and red envelopes with coins," added Avery. "I like the dragon and we'll have a parade," said Cameron. "Because it has a Chinese dragon," added Max. "We'll have a big parade," thought Cyril. "And you can see a big parade and you can see a lion and it jumps at people and backs up and goes to another people and jumps and backs up, but it's not a real one," Christine told us. "You just put on a pretend dragon and we're rich with lots of friends," added Bianca. We finished up our week of Chinese New Year with our own dragon parade at Growing Tree. "I was part of the dragon," said Christine. "I was the dragon tail," said Marianna, "and we walked around and we went outside and we are doing something special in a parade." "I just doed the music," said Reed. "I did the drum by the dragon," Porter added. "I marched by

the dragon and I had that thing with all the colors,” said Anthony. We had a great Chinese New Year!

Coming up in March we will learn about community helpers and we will have some community helpers visiting our class to tell us what they do. We'll also have a week of circus fun, a week where everything is green and we'll talk about spring. And, of course we continue learning the letter of the week, as well as counting, patterning, sign language and so many other things. The teachers are seeing so much wonderful growth in your children, from their speech, their abilities to tackle projects and build friendships to their cutting and fine motor skills, and alphabet recognition. We've come so far and we still have three months to go. Just imagine where we'll be at the end of the three class—these children are amazing!

Pre-k Newsletter March 2010
April, Pat, and Nikki

It is hard to believe that we are more than half way through the school year. The children are progressing wonderfully. You can see it in so many areas. Their drawings are filled with so much more detail, people in their drawings are begging to have heads and bodies, and their arms are no longer growing out of their ears! They are able to hold their scissors properly and cut out shapes, and on the line I might add! They are able to hold their marker and crayon in the correct pincher hold for writing. They are all working hard on their writing skills, and writing in the "school way".

They are able to identify many letters, if not all, and the sound associated with the letter. They are pattern, shape, and color experts! Not to mention, how they are maturing, and learning how to socialize successfully with their peers. We are so proud of each and every one of our students and their many accomplishments!

February has been such a fun, love filled month. We started out the month learning about "community helpers" all of the people within our communities, the jobs they perform, and how they are a helpful member of our society. It was fun to find out which job the children think they would like to have when they grow up. Surprisingly, we had a lot of children who said they would like to be a garbage man! This must have something to do with the excitement amongst the children that comes when the garbage truck visits to Growing Tree.

Clifford was the perfect character to lead us into Valentine's Day, with his big red coat and adorable companion Mary Elizabeth. The children were so excited to present a valentine to each of their classmates. It was darling.

Here are the children's thoughts on what it means when you love someone:

Dania said, "It means you hug them and kiss them!"

Ben R. said, "You say I love you and you are so happy!"

Emmi said, "You play with them on the swings."

Ella said, "You love them really so much, and you tell them I love you."

Bennett said, "You really love somebody! You be nice, and share your toys."

Emily said, "You care and say I love you, and you give them a valentines card."

Luke said, "You feel good and happy when you love someone. You like to give them cards or something in a heart shape."

Next we focused on Chinese New Year. The children learned that 2010 is the year of the tiger, and that most of them were born in the year of the rooster. Miss Pat brought in lots of fun pictures and souvenirs her Mother acquired while on her trip to China. The children enjoyed looking at all of the unique things. We also learned that the Chinese invented the umbrella and the kite.

We have made it all the way to Letter Uu. The children do such a great job thinking of words that begin with our letter of the week.

We will wrap up the month learning all about one of our favorite authors Dr. Seuss, we will read many of his fun books, make some fun and crazy art! We will even find out who likes green eggs and ham.

March is going to be a great month, not only will spring come, but we will begin our travels around the world, we will learn about different customs, food, clothing, and toys that people from around the world practice and enjoy from around the world. Our travels will begin right here in the US, starting with California, and Hawaii. We will then head south across the boarder to Mexico, after that we will zoom across the globe to Ireland, The Philippines, Italy, France, Egypt, and England. Lastly we will visit the Rain Forest, and Africa. It is going to be lots of fun.

We are having such a wonderful time with your children. It is a great year.

Miss April, Miss Pat and Miss Nikki

Laureen's and Manal's Pre-K

February was such a fun-filled month! We discovered all kinds of interesting facts about "**Clifford the dog**". We were challenged with **opposites, sequences and rhyming**. We had too much fun at our **Pajama Pancake Party** for the letter "P". Everyone loved the pancakes! Some with syrup, some with butter, some with syrup and butter and some plain! We also explored tools and buildings. And of course we shared the love during Valentine's Day. We were fortunate enough to be able to celebrate **Chinese New Year** for a whole week. Many thanks to the following families **Yu's, Chang's and Belshaw's** who they shared their time, culture and food!. Thank you all so much!

Manal and I would like to thank all the families that contributed to our two-day Valentine celebration: **Kennedy, Dunne, Tague, Grenby, Morely, Bea, Maksimovic and McEneaney** . What a feast it was!!! The children were so sweet and thoughtful while passing out their cards. It is so refreshing to see that a simple princess or Star Wars card can make us feel so good! **Ryan Foster** summed it up when he said to Beatriz, "these are the best cookies I ever had" and **Beatriz** replied, "Ryan is so nice". Ahhh sweet!

This month we also explored some of our favorite Dr. Suess's books. We practiced rhyming words for **The Cat in The Hat**, and constructed our own "Cats", we marbled painted **Red Fish Blue Fish**, and of course my favorite "**Green Eggs and Ham**". It always surprises me how many children really "do like green eggs and ham". This year I am happy to say we had 100% try and like them!!! The children enjoyed this immensely and here is what they told us:

Jack: Yes, because they had color; **Eamon:** yes, because they were so good, I had thirds; **Meagan:** Yes, because I like eggs; **Hadley:** Yes, because it tasted good and I know the story; **Zach:** yes, cuz the taste was good; **Emi:** Yes, I like the ham and the story; **Maren:** yes, because it was green, I had seconds; **Kate:** Yes, because they were green with magic; **Ryan:** Yes, it was good and No, it was too hot; **Dante:** mmmm, yes, cause I was thinking about them during the story; **Kristina:** Yes, I like the eggs; **Oliver:** yes, and I asked for more; **Elise:** yes and Sam-I-am liked it too; **Jessica:** yes, they tasted really good; **Charlotte:** Yes, I loved the whole thing. I have that story on my bookshelf; **Henry:** yes, they tasted good and I had seconds; **Skylar:** I love them a lot, they are my favorite kind of eggs. They are delicious and it is my favorite story; **Romey:** yes, they are yummy. I like the story; **Cameron:** Yes, I loved it. I eat the ham. I have that story at home. **Alexander:** yes, because they are so yummy. I love when Ms. Manal read the story in French.

During morning circle we are recognizing and spelling our last names. We now have to ask for our favorite job in a complete sentence. We added some new songs to our song bag, and when we are the weather person we have to sound out the correct words! The children are becoming very proficient with the calendar and are very proud when we can't stump them with our questions. Learning can be so fun!

The children are also becoming very confident in their writing of each letter and also in naming the sound (phonemes) each letter represents. We will continue with our alphabet sharing as it is an integral part of our Pre-K classroom not only does it give us a chance to get to know your child better, but it allows your child to practice speaking in front of their peers. The children love giving clues about their sharing and having their friends try to guess what they brought or stumping them! They love this so much that it actually is one of the games they chose to play for free choice and at the lunch table!

March themes will be exploring "transportation", and we will begin our unit on "Around the World". The children will get a passport and explore a different country and culture every day for the month of March. Some of the countries we will visit are: USA, Mexico, Italy, France, Ireland, Egypt, Mexico, Philippines and the Rainforest. If you or a relative have traveled to or are from another country we would love to have you come talk to us about it during our morning circle (9:30-9:50). Just let us know.

We still would love to have more guest readers. Readers pick out a book from home or library and read to us at 12:25. The children love to have their parent in our class. Also, if you haven't done so, please sign up on the calendar for your special **VIP day**. The children are getting very excited about their turn at this now.

Once again, Manal and I want to thank you for sharing your wonderful children with us each day. They touch our lives everyday as we hope we touch theirs.

Happy Spring!

Laureen and Manal

Transitional Kindergarten

March 2010

February was a very busy and fun-filled month in T-K! The first big event was the countdown to the 100th Day of School! One of our activities was to brainstorm what you're like when you're 100 years old...

Justin: You kind of look like Rip Van Winkle.

Liesel: Old men watch a lot of T.V. and only have two or three hairs on top of their head.

John: You get wrinkles, especially on your forehead...
My baby brother gets those wrinkles too!

Anneliese: When I'm really old, I don't want any wrinkles!
(Join the club, Anneliese!)

Grant: Old people like to take care of their grandkids or exercise or play chess.

Luke D.: Well some old ladies are cowgirls, like my great Grandma in Texas!

We brainstormed what we wish we had 100 of and what we'd buy if we had \$100...Charlie would buy a "Dodge Viper!" and Brett would buy a remote control monster truck and Grady would buy a Jeep. Do you notice a pattern here?! We were even brave enough to sound out what we could eat 100 of! See if you can figure them out!...

- A. Lauren: "sobres"
- B. Meghan: "iscrem"
- C. Josie: "berck"
- D. Colin: "wotrmns"
- E. Ella: "pikls"

Answers on back.

After celebrating 100 days of school, we jumped right into Valentines Day and made special "love potion" that would make you fall in love with the first person you looked at after your first sip! Rome looked at Lauren, Lauren looked at John, and John looked at the ground! Luke W. was very nervous about the whole thing and decided "he'd just watch!"

After all the love, we moved on to a more serious discussion of Presidents Washington and Lincoln.

We first talked about Washington cutting down the cherry tree but telling the truth. Everyone agreed that they would have done the same thing...except for Ryan. Ryan would "blame it on my dog, Bailey! He's always eating the apples off of our apple tree!" When we discussed Lincoln, Grace was so excited to find out that he was a lawyer, just like her dad! Then we discussed Lincoln's policy on slavery and Logan, our walking wikipedia, thought Lincoln would have been good friends with Martin Luther King and Mahatma Gandhi ("I know about them from my book about really nice guys that are dead now."). Ella wisely observed that "none of the ladies have ever chosen to be president!"

We wrapped up February with Pets, and had so much fun going to Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF). As usual, your children were perfect angels! Thanks again to all of our wonderful parent drivers/chaperones who make it all happen and make it so much fun!

Our March themes include: weather, rainbows, St. Patrick's Day, Safety and Community. We will be going on another fieldtrip as well to Percussion Discussion at the Leshner Theatre in Walnut Creek on Wednesday, March 10.

We had three awesome superstars this month as well...Did you know:

Josie loves to make French toast with her mom?

Ryan wants to be a vet when he grows up?

If John had one wish, it would be to get a truck?

We also want to thank all of you awesome parents for how much you've done this month...all of your special treats, valentines, fieldtrip driving...you do so much for your children and are always offering to do more...We hope your children appreciate you as much as we do!

Answers from page 1:

- A. strawberries
- B. ice cream
- C. beef jerky
- D. watermelons
- E. pickles

Terri and Gina