



Our mission is to educate the whole child; thus we endeavor to nurture every heart and challenge every mind through the experience of meaningful inquiry.

June 18, 2010
Week 2

Teepees, Tribes & Totem Poles

Students learned about Native Americans from seven regions of North America. Many crafts and projects were used to help the students get a feel for unique aspects of the culture.

From the Northeastern and Southeastern woodlands, the students made **bird masks** and wore them as they learned about and danced (toe – heel) the Green Corn dance to the beat of drums. They used brown bags (to represent animal skin) to create picture writing.

From the Great Plains, the students learned about the buffalo; and picture writing was again used as the **students decorated a teepee**, which was placed in the gym for all students to actually go into and enjoy. Wampum necklaces were made using pasta that the students helped dye with food coloring, and the students made **warbonnets** using real feathers and feathers that they cut out. From the Far North and Northwest Coastal areas, the students learned about the “Potlatch,” used large paper spools to create three-dimensional totem poles, and played a stick game (using craft sticks). This fun game also helped brush up on math skills: predicting, graphing and probability. From the California and Southwest areas, the students learned about and created **Dream Catchers** and Kachina dolls.

For the culminating activities, the students cooked “fry bread,” and worked together to create a large graph that charted the foods, clothing, shelter and transportation that the Native Americans from each region once used. Poetry was used to tie all of these facts together. Throughout the week, fact-based literature was used to explore Native American life then and now. Native American legends from tribes such as the Cherokee, Hopi, Inuit, Iroquois, Navajo, Pomo, Pueblo and Sioux were also shared. Fun activity pages were included as some students colored, cut and glued individual teepees, completed dot-to-dot dream catchers, colored geometry pottery and completed pictograph math problems.

Mid-week the students also enjoyed a delightful play at the CATS Theater: *LYLE THE CROCODILE*. Lastly, students looked forward to Friday for Splash Day!



CALENDAR - Next Week: Arctic Blast

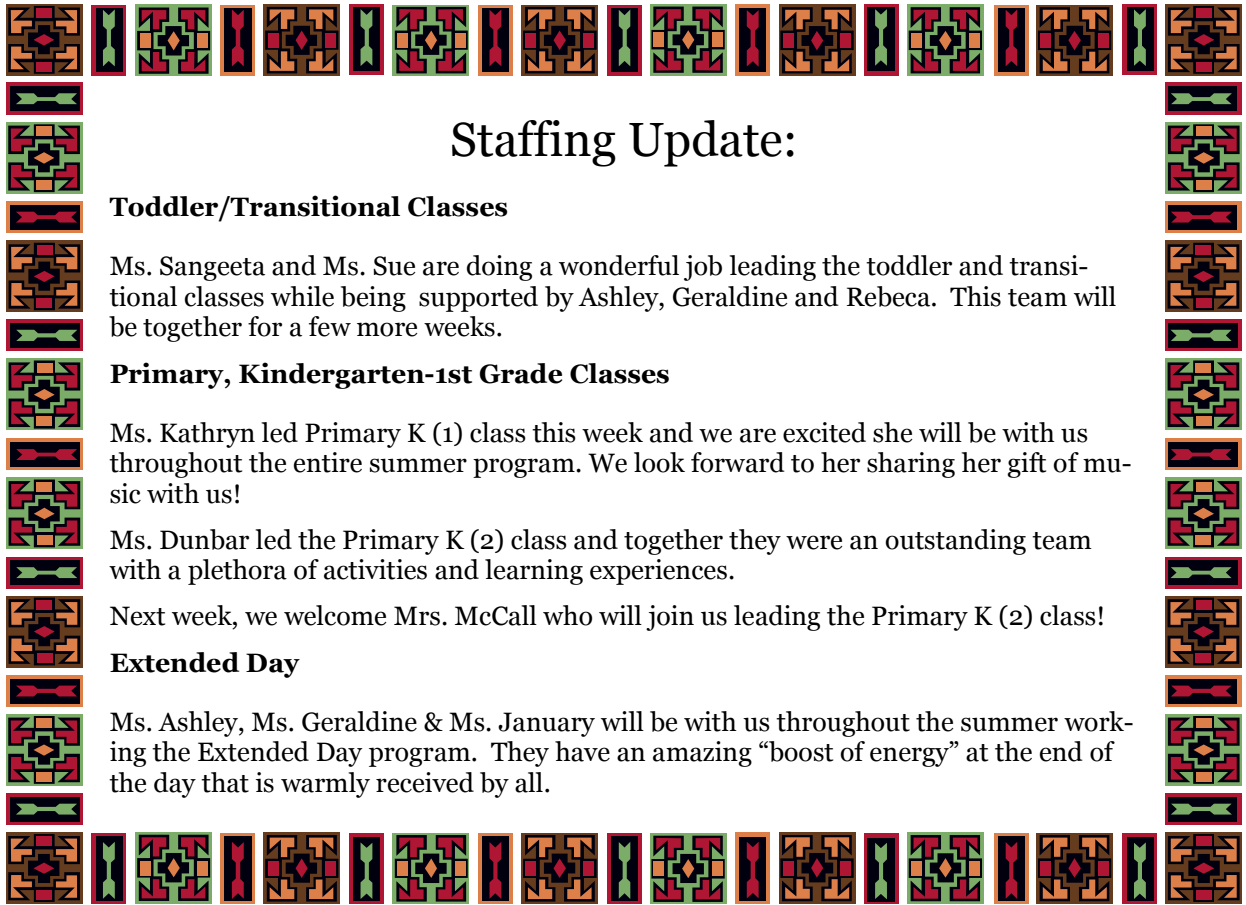


Monday 6/21	Tuesday 6/22	Wednesday 6/23	Thursday 6/24	Friday 6/25
Music with Ms. Sheila Mr. Bob from the Arlington Public Library visits	Stretch N' Grow	K-1st Grade students visit the Nature & Science Museum in Dallas Spanish (does not include Toddler students)	Music with Ms. Laurie	Stretch N' Grow

Teepees, Toddlers & Transitional Students

It was a busy time in the main building as toddler and transitional students created their native American headdresses, masks, vests and plenty of art work with colors and collages. With all this activity, we did not forget all those dads who are so special to our students. We made handprints to make a frame for the dads for Father's Day. The girls loved the story of Pocahontas especially since she was a princess. Students played music with the little drum and other instruments while singing some Native American songs. Counting 1-5 the Native American way was awesome as they enjoyed finger plays.





Staffing Update:

Toddler/Transitional Classes

Ms. Sangeeta and Ms. Sue are doing a wonderful job leading the toddler and transitional classes while being supported by Ashley, Geraldine and Rebeca. This team will be together for a few more weeks.

Primary, Kindergarten-1st Grade Classes

Ms. Kathryn led Primary K (1) class this week and we are excited she will be with us throughout the entire summer program. We look forward to her sharing her gift of music with us!

Ms. Dunbar led the Primary K (2) class and together they were an outstanding team with a plethora of activities and learning experiences.

Next week, we welcome Mrs. McCall who will join us leading the Primary K (2) class!

Extended Day

Ms. Ashley, Ms. Geraldine & Ms. January will be with us throughout the summer working the Extended Day program. They have an amazing “boost of energy” at the end of the day that is warmly received by all.

A Note From The Director

The first two weeks of “Summer at CDSA” have gotten off to a great start. We are glad you are here with us. I would like to thank Ms. Dunbar for coordinating the curriculum for this summer – with very intriguing and interesting themes for all levels, all weeks.

We have a few open spaces so let your friends know they can also join us!

Throughout summer, the teachers will trade off leading so that everyone has the opportunity to enjoy some of the summer break. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions regarding the summer program or the school year.

