

ACCC NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 1999

THANK YOU

Earthling:

Johnson: baby food
Dominguez: food donations & bottles
Machak: AA batteries

Pioneer:

Thank you to all the parents who donated food and money to help make the bake sale successful!
Woo: little swimmers diapers

Mercury:

Thank you to all the parents who came put and helped make the Jog-A-Thon a fun experience for the kids.

Viking:

Thank you to the parents for coming out and helping with the Halloween Festivities.

Gemini:

Korsmeyer: Pumpkin
Chan: fish crackers
To all the parents who helped with the pumpkin patch trip.

Apollo:

Maier/Hendley: a white pumpkin
Kolyer: two plants to help make our room cozier
All the parents who participated in the Halloween festivities

Vanguard:

To all the parents who drove and helped with the field trip to the pumpkin patch
Kennon: child sized rocking chair

WISH LIST

Earthling:

- *Crib sheets
- *Crib mobiles
- *Burp rags
- *Kids music tapes & CDs
- *Tape/CD rack for wall
- *Double stroller

Pioneer:

- *White or light blue fitted sheets (twin size)

Viking:

- *Used book 2-3yr
- *Lullaby tapes
- *Up beat songs to dance to
- *Dress up clothes

Gemini:

- *Story Tapes
- *Puzzles

Apollo:

- *New floor puzzle

Classroom Happenings:

Earthling

The babies are busy working on their gross motor skills. They are working on sitting up, rolling over, crawling and pulling themselves up to stand! Recently, the Earthlings have enjoyed going for walks and playing on the deck.

Pioneer

The Pioneers are also working on their gross motor skills, but their activities involve learning to walk! This month the Pioneers will be doing lots of art activities that have to do with Thanksgiving and Fall. They are welcoming two new Pioneers, Megan and Herena. They also look forward to celebrating two of the children's first birthdays!

Mercury

During the Summer months the Mercuries put in a lot of practice time for the Jog-A-Thon. They walked as a group to the soccer field on the walking rope. This rope has little rings that each child holds so that they all walk in a line and stay together. Previously they were riding in the Bye-Bye Buggy for trips. They were confined by seat belts in the buggy and with the rope they have gained a sense of independence and have the freedom of movement.

The Mercuries are also very excited about receiving a new indoor sensory table which they will be using during the long winter months.

Viking

The Vikings spent part of the month creating Holiday art. One of the activities was Halloween ghosts. They also got a kick out of crayon rubbings. The Vikings shared one of their favorite art activities, marble magic, with the other classrooms at the Halloween Party. The children went on an adventure walk and picked up some leaves. They used the leaves to create projects. The Vikings had a great time moving their bodies while dancing to some music. The teachers made different shapes on the floor so the children stood on their own shape and rocked out!

In November the Vikings will talk about feelings. They are going to make a "feeling collage". For Thanksgiving they plan to make Handprint Turkeys, and Turkey Finger Puppets. They also have lots of cool games planned to play.

Gemini

The month of October was a busy month for the Geminis. In the beginning of the month they got into shape by running in the Jog-A-Thon. They also welcomed a new Gemini to the classroom – Robert Watts. The Geminis got ready for Halloween by making ghosts, pumpkins, and baking cookies. They all really enjoyed the trip to the pumpkin patch. They ended the month with Parent Teacher Conferences and the Halloween Parade and Party.

Apollo

The past month the Apollos have been celebrating Autumn. They have

collected leaves, read stories and learned songs about Fall. They also visited the pumpkin patch, celebrated Halloween, and cut into pumpkins. At the start of the month the Apollos learned a lot about fire safety and had a visit by the Moffett Field Fire Department.

For November they will be continuing Fall activities. Some of these will include: cooking with pumpkin, learning about and celebrating Thanksgiving, enjoying the gathering of family and friends and going on an Autumn walk.

Vanguard

During October the Vanguards enjoyed a visit from the firemen. They walked as a class over to Bldg. 258 on October 12 to sing for a CFC campaign. They then walked out to the grass to run and saw the big wind tunnel. The Vanguards also had a great time at the pumpkin patch and celebrating Halloween with the rest of the center at the parade/party.

The Vanguards are all settled in now and are having a great time together. Their activity of exploring the alphabet has been met with great enthusiasm by the children!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS!

Joseph Desch	1 year	10/14
Miles Freeman	1 years	10/31
Alyssa Bebout	2 years	10/26
Robert Watts	3 years	10/30
Mara McKown	4 years	10/30
Dionna Jacobson	4 years	10/19
Juliet Pilewskie	4 years	10/1
Kymbr Mundstock		10/4
Helen Duty		10/6

The Internet Connection

Following are a couple of web sites that were found to have good information or entertainment value for parents and families.

/Please note that the ACCC does not endorse, or claim knowledge of the advice or products on these sites. As with any internet information, check out these sites before sharing them with your children./

If you have found a web site that has been useful to you or your family and want to pass it along to others, please give the address to the office and we will be glad to include it in future newsletters.

This month there is only one web site to mention, but it will keep you busy for hours!

The site for this month is a “directory of safe, recommended web sites for children up to age 12”. When you first get to this site you will see Theodore the Tugboat and you may not be able to figure out why, don’t worry neither could I! Go to the FAQ page and you will learn all about the purpose of the site, how it began, and what the criteria are for sites to be posted on this page (I still didn’t figure out the Theodore connection!). As of this writing there are 1210 sites rated and posted on this page. They are divided as follows:

- Just for fun
- Serious stuff
- Holidays
- Creatures great & small
- Kids on the net
- And more!

Check it out if you can and bookmark it for safe web travel with your children full of great activities!!!!

www.cochran.com/theodore/beritsbest

Meet the ACCC Staff

Bill Foster started at ACCC on March 7, 1990. He is a teacher in the Gemini Room. Bill received some Early Childhood Education units at both San Jose State University and De Anza Community College. In the short term Bill is interested in getting into the administrative side of this field. Some long term goals of Bill's are to continue his education and continue to work with preschoolers. Bill has been married to wife, Jolene, for four years. They have a 3 1/2 year old daughter named Ashley, and hope to add to their family in 2000. In Bill's off time he enjoys sports, reading and playing with his daughter.

Laura Crutchfield began working at Ames Child Care Center on February 27, 1995. Laura is co-head teacher in the Apollo room and brings with her a wealth of experiences with children. She received a CDA in child development after two years of work study in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1984. She has taken additional ECE classes in the years since receiving her CDA. She has worked in the field of child development in many capacities since 1979. Some of these include, Sunday school teacher, preschool teacher, school age care provider, home care provider, and mental health assistant. Laura plans to work towards her Bachelor's degree little by little. She is also interested in the administrative end of early childhood education. Laura is a single parent raising two adolescent boys, 11 and 15. She says she is finding that all of her education and experience in the field of early childhood education is not much help when it comes to teenagers! She is originally from Portland, Oregon and lived there for her first twenty years until she got married and moved to Hawaii. After a taste of the ideal climate, there was no going back to the rainy pacific northwest! In her free time Laura enjoys reading a variety of books including fiction, self-help, and biographies. She also enjoys creative writing and has written several short stories and poems over the years. In closing Laura would like to share with everyone that she loves her job at Ames Child Care Center and has grown a lot in her profession the five years she has been here. She believes strongly in her chosen profession of early childhood educator and gets immense satisfaction from the work that she does.

November Calendar

11/3	Vanguard Room Conference
11/4	Viking Room Conferences
11/5	Apollo Room Conferences
11/11	ACCC Closed-Veteran's Day
11/25	ACCC Closed-Thanksgiving

Craft Corner

Here are a few craft ideas to take you into the holidays!

PLACE MATS

Construction paper
Clear contact paper
Glue
Decorations

Depending on whether they are Thanksgiving place mats, Christmas place mats, Kwanza place mats, etc., you can choose a variety of things to decorate with. The basics would be crayons or markers. Then you could add stickers, leaves, wrapping paper scraps, ribbons, scenes from greeting cards, anything that fits your fancy!

Chose the color construction paper you want, let the children decorate to their hearts content, and cover both sides with clear contact paper. Be sure to make one for everyone, they will be a nice touch to any holiday table!

TABLE CLOTHS

Another great holiday table idea: cover the table, the kids table, the coffee table, etc., with a plain paper tablecloth. Set out some markers, crayons, and stickers and the children will stay very busy decorating!

THE CENTERPIECE

There are lots of great ideas for table decorations or centerpieces created by the children. One of my favorites is to have the children decorate a mini pumpkin in any way they choose. Cut off the top of the pumpkin and hollow it out some. Place a small votive candle inside, and place one or a cluster of them in the center of the table. Voila you have a centerpiece that would make Martha Stewart jealous! (Of course as anytime when using an open flame, be very cautious of the children's access to the candles!)