

the

2010-2011

# SEED newsletter

6630 S. 40th Street • Phoenix, Arizona • 85042 • (602) 454-2606

check out the  
Seed's new  
website!



October 18, 2010 • [www.awakeningseedsschool.org](http://www.awakeningseedsschool.org)

## Influenza Immunization Information

One of the new health department regulations requires that we make available information about immunizations for influenza. Here is a link to find out more about this: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/children.htm>

## Music News

We've had a great start to the school year in music! The Toddler 1s are starting to really engage and participate in our movement songs and fingerplay activities. In Toddler 2s, we've been encouraging everyone to sing by re-introducing familiar songs from last year. We've been playing lots of instruments in the preschool and PreK classes: more time with xylophones, drums, triangles and other rhythm and tuned percussion instruments. With the grade school classes, we've included more instrument play as well, and have introduced drum circles. Active listening to classical and jazz music, including the identification of

instruments we hear has also been a part of our music curriculum.

## From the APA

We're closing in on the carnival date! Please continue to sell those raffle tickets, sign up to work a shift at the carnival, and turn in your pre-order forms if you want to avoid long lines the night of the carnival. Let us know if you have any questions and thanks for your help!

## Carnival Shifts

Hundreds of hours have already gone into preparations for the carnival. In order to make the carnival a success, we need EVERY family to sign up to cover a half hour shift doing something the night of the carnival. Sign-up sheets for games are posted near the classroom doors and for other activities, such as the food booth, silent auction/raffle, ticket sales, and the cake walk, the sign-up sheets are on the parent volunteer board. Thanks to those of you who have already signed up.

## Mystery Theater

This year's Mystery Theater production is called WHERE'S MY MUMMY? It will feature many of the long standing Mystery Theater players, as well as quite a few new bright, up and coming stars. Don't miss it on the night of the carnival. Show times are 6:30, 7:00, and 7:30. Tickets are \$5 and all proceeds benefit the Seed Faculty Retirement Fund.

## Love and Logic

The Love and Logic workshop series is set to begin on Tuesday, November 2nd. The sessions will be held from 5:30-7:00 p.m. each Tuesday in November. See this link for details: <http://www.awakeningseedsschool.org/wp-content/uploads/files/LL-Fall-2010.pdf>

## Toddler 1s

### Sarah/Meryl/Danielle

The toddlers have been working very hard on our monkeys, leaves, butterflies, and snakes. We hope you have all had a chance to stop in and see our monkeys hanging out on the vines in our classroom. This week we'll introduce household "jobs" and some new classroom toys. At home, we encourage you to include your child when doing the dishes, throwing trash away, and feeding pets. You'll be surprised what your child will be able to do!!

## Toddler 2s

### Jamie/Lyndsy

Last week we took a break from our shapes and had some fun with the book, *If You Were a Penguin* by Wendell and Florence Minor. As the book came alive we created a penguin complete with a body, head, flippers, feet,



eyes, feathers, and don't forget the beak! Throughout the week, the toddlers discovered some fun facts about penguins. They can sleep standing up, they can fly through the water super fast, and they eat fish. Every penguin came equipped with a bucket of goldfish. The toddlers definitely enjoyed eating them more than they did gluing them. This week it's back to shapes, and diamond is our next shape.

### **Preschool 2.5s/3s Carly/Melanie**

The class will be wrapping up their sports study soon. This week we will be learning about football and we will be ending the study with bowling. The kids will be brainstorming what they would like their next study to be. We also had a successful and fun class party. Thank you to our room reps, Jamie, Astraea, and Kaylee, for all their hard work. I also enjoyed getting to talk to with everyone during conferences. With Halloween rapidly approaching, we are getting excited with fun activities and stories. Pre-order your tickets for the Halloween carnival!

### **Preschool 3s Kevin/Katie**

Thank you to everyone for your flexibility these couple of weeks. I've been keeping up with Stephanie; she and Katie seem to be providing a fun and stable curriculum in my absence. This week the class will be focusing on butterflies to go along with Diane's migration lessons. Students will learn about their life cycle and observe caterpillars transition through different stages. Also this week, Krina will lead the class in her first lesson! I know she'll do great. The Halloween Carnival is around the corner. Please sign up to lead a game.

### **Preschool 4s Deb/Billie**

Our butterfly study continues as we learn words like METAMORPHOSIS, CHRYSALIS and MOLTING and watch first hand as a caterpillar begins to transform. In addition, the class created a butterfly to send to Mexico as part of a symbolic migration. Our butterfly is one of 60,000 sent from classrooms in Canada and the U.S. to the sanctuary regions of Mexico.

When the return migration begins, the Preschool 4s will receive a paper butterfly from Mexico on its journey north. More information about this project can be found at <http://www.learner.org/jnorth>. Many thanks to parents who shared their knowledge and insight during parent/teacher conferences.

### **PreK Emily/Tatiana**

A three-day week allowed us time to rehearse and perform *Sam and the Lucky Money*, a story about a child who gives his four dollars to a homeless person. We enjoyed decorating our Chinese lion for the play, learning the in's and out's of Tic-Tac-Toe, and making observations about the new caterpillars living in our classroom. This week we welcome a visitor from UMOM New Day Centers to talk about working in a homeless shelter. We will also sort and count the toys donated for our toy drive, which ends Monday, October 18th.

### **K-1 Kerri/Michelle**

This week we kick off a two-week study of Halloween and research the origin of this festive tradition. Pumpkin math, silly costumes, cake-decorating projects, Halloween books and more will be part of the fall holiday theme. Science, reading and writing activities will highlight skeletons, witches and jack-o-lanterns. We'll even practice and present a class performance of Big Pumpkin for our buddy readers. Meanwhile, we have peas, carrots, beets, radishes, melons, lettuce and sunflowers sprouting in our garden. Our 1st grader will focus on subtraction and story problems while kindergartners count, sort junk and compare the length of our names for our math studies.

### **1st/2nd Grades Becky/Dina**

We all enjoy the colors of autumn leaves. The changing fall foliage never fails to surprise and delight us. A relative from New York sent me a box of autumn leaves and of course I showed them to the children. We observed them closely with our Private Eyes. Did you ever wonder how and why a fall leaf changes color? We are in the process of learning the answer to this question. This close observation of

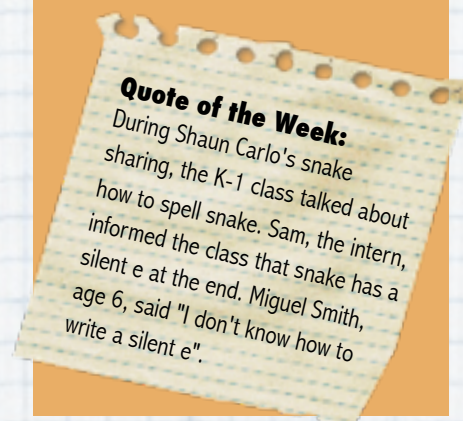
## Mark Your Calendar

Halloween Carnival  
*October 29th 6-8:30 p.m.*

Veterans' Day  
*Thursday, November 11th  
no school*

All-School  
Thanksgiving Feast  
*Wednesday, November 24th  
11:30 a.m.*

Thanksgiving Holiday  
*Thurs/Fri, November 25th/26th  
no school*



leaves will surely lead us to an art project. We'll find out how pure maple syrup is made and treat ourselves to it as well.

### **3rd/4th Grades Aimee/Kaylee**

The third/fourth graders attended their own conferences this year to share their progress with their parents. In preparation, the students chose artifacts that demonstrated their strengths to add to their personal portfolio. Each item included a short reflection describing what that piece said about him/her as a student and why they chose to include it. The children also set goals for the remainder of the school year. First, each child chose an area to focus on and reflected on how that subject was going so far this year. Then he/she chose a goal and two strategies to achieve it.