Hi 3’s parents,

We did a lot with pumpkins during orange week.  We talked about the many different shapes we can use to make a face on a pumpkin to turn it into a jack-o-lantern.   The way we form the mouth and eyebrows really affects how the face looks.  Changing the corners of the mouth can turn an angry jack-o-lantern into a happy one.  We made puppets with a pumpkin on one side and a jack-o-lantern on the other drawing the kind of face we wanted.  We also painted party bags for our upcoming Halloween party.  We used a roller to paint over a stencil, making the shape of a pumpkin on the bag.  We also finger painted pumpkins, mixing red and yellow paint to make orange.

At the science table, we experimented with color mixing.  We used pipettes to put red or blue water into a tray.  Then we added yellow and watched how the colors blended together.  Using the pipette to squeeze the water out helps our fine motor development.  It was a fun activity!  At the toy table, we played with the Peanuts’ Halloween set.  Charlie Brown and all the characters were there, with Halloween costumes and props.  There was even a treat bag filled with rocks!

At the challenge table, we counted from one to five using orange bottle caps decorated as pumpkins.  We had sheets with numbers on them and we put that many pumpkins on them.  We also had a felt pumpkin and cards with different jack-o-lantern faces on them.  We used felt pieces to make the faces on the pumpkin.   We did some Halloween patterning with plastic ghosts, bats, and black cats.

The game table had boards with pictures of pumpkins on them.  We each got a board and rolled a die.  We looked at the number we landed on and put that many gem pumpkins on our board.  We took turns with a partner and the first to fill up the card was the winner.  We also had a Halloween bingo card filled with pictures of Halloween things, like a witch and a spider.  We chose cards and matched them to the squares on the bingo card.  This was good practice in visual discrimination.

In the large motor room, we had skull buckets, witches, ghosts, and Frankensteins in the rice table.  We created our own monster puppets, attaching Velcro eyes, legs, and arms.  We hammered orange tees at the pounding table and we practiced cutting orange strips of paper in the snipping turtle.  We colored pumpkins, black cats, and ghosts at creative arts.

We read the books “It’s Pumpkin Time,” about a family that grows pumpkins from seeds to harvest, carving them for Halloween, and “I Like Pumpkins,” a nice rhyming book about the many forms pumpkins can take on, from scarecrows to lanterns to pumpkin pie!  We used plastic spiders to dance along to Raffi’s “There’s a Spider on the Floor.”  It was fun as the spider climbed up our bodies – eek!  We learned several fun rhymes this week.  See what your child can remember.  Here is one you can say together:

See my big and scary eyes!

Watch out –

Here comes a surprise!

BOO!

Next week we will have more Halloween fun.  We are looking forward to our parties on Thursday.  Students can wear their costumes to school, and the 4’s class will be doing a parade through our classroom.  We will also go up to the offices to trick or treat.  It will be a very exciting week!

**We are finding that we needs to change students’ masks as they get wet during the day.  If you can send in an extra mask in their school bags each day, we would really appreciate it.  Thank you!**

Have a great weekend!  We hope to see you at some of the activities here at the church on Saturday!

Nancy

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