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# The Spotted Zebra Learning Center

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April 2023



**\*We are closed on April  
7<sup>th</sup> for Good Friday\***

**\*No Special Education  
Program April 7<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>\***



## What is Happening in the Classrooms....



### VIOLET ROOM NEWS

Happy Spring! It's great to see warm sunny days are finally upon us. The little ones are delighted to be outside again, and the teachers can finally breathe a sigh of relief seeing them release some of their pent-up energy from being stuck inside this winter.

The violet room friends are doing a wonder job velcroing the individual letters to their names. In the beginning of May, we will introduce tracing the letters of their names upon arrival. Classroom jobs are a big hit, and the little ones take their responsibilities very seriously. They are also more accepting when they don't get a job, which was difficult when we first started introducing jobs. This is when "big deal" lion picture and "little deal" mouse picture come into play.

During snack and lunch, we are now practicing pouring water from a small pitcher into a paper cup. All your recent donations of paper towel are coming in real handy.

The themes for the month of April are Ovals/Eggs, Community Helpers, and Spring. The letters we will focus on this month are K, A, and M.

Once the mild weather is finally upon us, please start applying sun block on your child before they come to school. It helps to alleviate some chaos that sometimes occurs preparing to go outdoors. Please send in a new LABELED bottle of spray-on sun block to replace the outdated ones.

We would like to wish a special Happy Birthday to Amber and Ellie.

**Ms. Nicole, Ms. Chris, Ms. Laura, Ms. Lauren, and Ms. Heather**



## Blue Room News

Spring has Sprung! We are ready for warmer days and spending more time outside. If the weather cooperates, we will be going on walks and will spend time on playground daily.

March was a very busy month! We celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday, St. Patrick's Day and learned about many different Community Helpers. We discussed Police Officers, Teachers, Garbage Collectors, Dentists and Farmers. We had a blast discussing what we want to be when we grow up. The children were very creative! We also transformed our dramatic play area into a Library which the children loved! We ended March with Russell the Traveling Bear returning from hibernation and a visit from Albany County Sheriff's Deputies and their K-9 Partners.

In April we will dive into Spring. We will focus on the Baby Farm Animals, Plants, Flowers, and Earth Day. Our next dramatic play area will be Cotton Tail Farms (Baby Animals and Farm Stand). We will also be exploring a unit on Farms and caring for our planet Earth.

There are no birthdays to celebrate this month. We will take every opportunity to celebrate all the amazing children and achievements we see every day!

No school April 7, 2023 (Good Friday)

No Special Education Program  
April 7- April 14, 2023

Happy Spring!!

**Ms. Katina, Ms. Danielle, Ms. Sara, Ms. Kaylyn, and Ms. Casey**



## Bizzy Beez News

Bizzy Beez is hoping April showers bring the most beautiful May flowers! Looking forward to the sun and warm weather ahead.

We will start off the month exploring the farm and all the exciting animals that can be found on a farm. Following our experience at the farm we will take a small break from April 7th-April 14th!

When we get back we will regroup with a week of games and sensory while we adjust to being back at school. Our friends will then buzz into the world of insects and learn some fun facts about their habitats and what makes them amazing. Flying into the next theme we get the opportunity to watch the amazing metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly!

We want to wish Madden, Remy and Ms. Megan a very happy birthday!!!

**Ms. Carrie, Ms. Kari, Ms. Hope, Ms. Christiana, Ms. Marlis, Ms. Megan and Ms. Rachel**



## Green Room News

Spring is in bloom and the Green Room is so excited! As it begins to get nicer and nicer, we try to get outside as much as possible, we have loved going on walks in The Crossings! As we close out March, we will be talking about weather and looking for signs of spring and community helpers and, we even had a visit from a K9 unit!

As we move into April, we will explore the subject of Spring, and continue looking for signs of spring; learn how to be an "Earth Helper" and do fun Earth Day activities; we will also learn about bugs and insects! Our Handwriting curriculum continues to be a success! This month we will be working on letters with slanted lines (A, V, M, N).

During circle/story time we are continuing to work on patterning, counting, identifying the month of the year and the day of the week, as well as the weather to determine where we will have gross motor play. All are doing well reading the circle time report sentences with a "loud and proud voice."

We are looking forward to the science projects and math activities that can be integrated into this month's themes. We will also watch the weather to see when we can have outside playtime on a rainy day, so that we can look for worms, jump in puddles, and play in mud. Stay tuned!

As the weather starts to get nicer and we begin to go outside again, please start sending in a water bottle with your child's name clearly labeled, we will be bringing them outside to the playground daily.

We would like to wish Jacob a very happy birthday this month (4th)!

We hope everyone has an amazing April!

**The Green Room Teachers**



## Orange Room News

April Greetings! We ended March with a visit from Sheriff Taylor and her K-9 dog, Carney. Carney showed us how he can use scent to find lost or hidden objects in order to be a helper/part of a team. This visit provided a nice extension of ongoing social lessons and concepts in the Orange Room.

This month, prior to and following April Break (4/7-4/14), we will explore eggs/birds, seeds, pollination, living/non-living things, and life cycles. We will also create a story using our previously developed characters and settings by creating surrounding beginning, middle, and ending sequencing. We will continue to practice distinguishing fiction versus non-fiction texts, as well.

Also in our English Language Arts curriculum, we will work with the short *i* and *Oo* vowel sounds and the *-it* and *-op* word families. Letters for identification, writing, and phonics focus will be P, J, L, and R, K, A. We will also review sight words ("Popcorn Words") already introduced. This is a true favorite for our friends!

In our iReady Math curriculum, we will move on to understanding subtraction, and performing subtraction, within 5. As always, we will review counting, comparing groups, and using flat and solid shapes throughout our focus areas.

Finally, we will celebrate Ms. Danielle's birthday, as well as, Passover, Easter, Earth Day, Arbor Day, and hopefully, the true arrival of spring this month.

**Ms. Carol, Ms. Sunita, Ms. Tiffany, Ms. Brittany, Ms. Danielle, and Ms. Ang**