

CALENDAR

February: Black History Month

- 1/30 Looking Ahead to Kindergarten:
A Hands-On Workshop for Parents
5:00-6:00 p.m.
- 1/31 Looking Ahead to Kindergarten:
Classroom Observation
9:00-10:30 a.m.
- 2/2 All-School Meeting
Willow presents
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
- 2/2 Pizza Lunch
- 2/2 Chinese New Year
Sponsored by PACE
3:30-5:00 p.m. (American Room)
- 2/4 Jasmine's 5th Birthday
- 2/9 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
- 2/9 Pizza Lunch
- 2/16 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
- 2/16 Pizza Lunch
- 2/16 Re-enrollment Agreements Due
- 2/19-23 School Vacation Week
- 2/22 Rowan's 4th Birthday
- 2/26 School Resumes
- 2/26 Founders' Day Celebration
Breakfast
8:15-8:45 a.m.

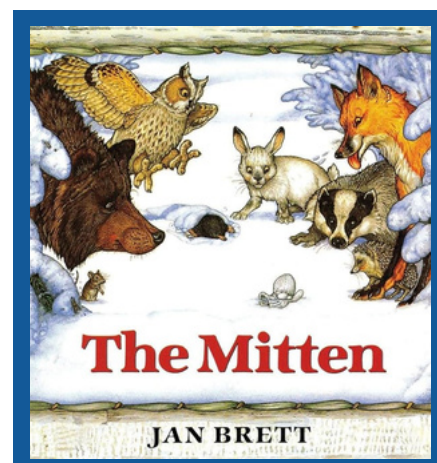
Sensorial

The Constructive Triangles are used to demonstrate that all plane geometric figures can be constructed from triangles. There are five boxes: 2 rectangular, 1 triangular, and 1 large and 1 small hexagonal. Each box contains triangles of different sizes, shapes, and colors. With the exception of Rectangular Box 2, black guidelines are painted in different positions on the triangles to help the child to construct other figures. This is an exploratory work that will provide a foundation for later concepts in geometry, including equivalency, similarity, and congruence.



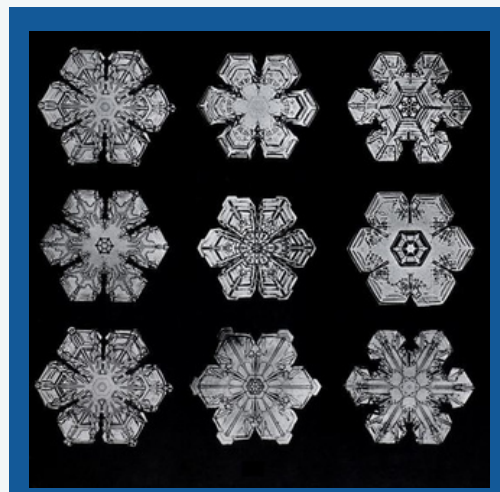
Language

The children enjoyed listening to and discussing the story, *The Mitten* by Jan Brett. They had fun retelling the story and putting all of the animals in the story into sequential order.



Cultural & Geography

The year 2024 began snowy and wet! We continued our discussion on the season of winter and snow. We read a book called *Snowflake Bentley*. The children learned that long ago a photographer named Wilson Bentley captured the beautiful images of snowflakes. Because of him we know that no two snowflakes are alike and that each one has six sides. The children could not contain their excitement as they waited for their snowflakes to magically appear after using watercolors on their white paper. This technique is called “wax resist.” The watercolor cannot stick to the snowflake drawn in white crayon. This whole process reminded the children of how Wilson Bentley had to wait for his photographs to develop until he could see the beautiful snowflakes.



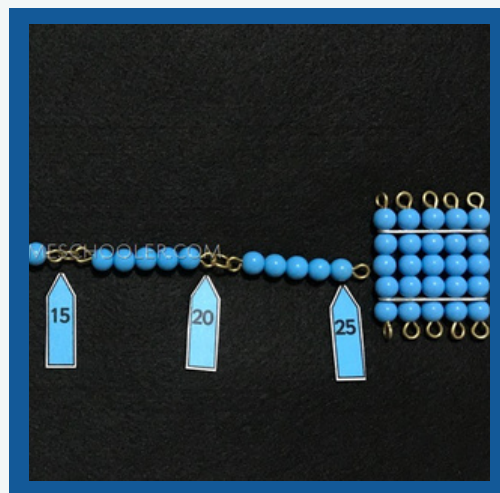
Science



January is a great time of year to talk about the Polar Regions. We focused on the polar lands (the Arctic and the Antarctic). The children were introduced to the animals that live in both of these Arctic regions and compared the similarities and differences. In particular, we focused on the different species of penguins and learned the penguin body parts. We discussed the Inuits (Eskimos) and how they live in the Arctic region. We had a lot of fun making the Northern Lights out of watercolors. We also discussed the effects of global warming and how it affects the polar wildlife. We explored how we can take care of the earth by using environmentally friendly products to prevent global warming and its effects on the wildlife in the polar regions.

Math

Some of our students have been introduced to the Squaring Chains or the “short chains.” This activity teaches the child skip counting which is preparation for multiplication. It also indirectly prepares the child to understand squaring numbers.





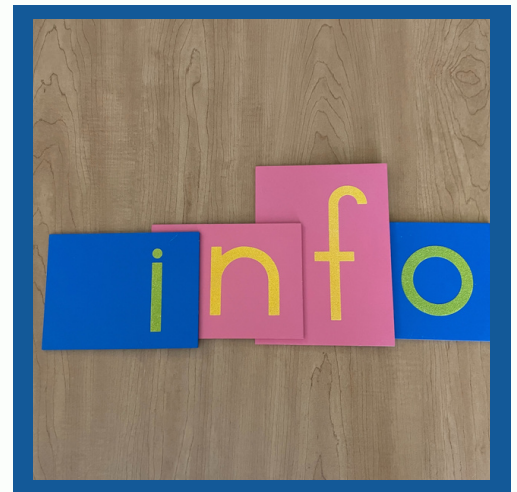
Looking Ahead...

Next Month's Topics

- Groundhog Day
- Valentine's Day
- Dental Health

More Information...

Please send your children with appropriate winter clothing (winter jacket, snow pants, boots, waterproof mittens, and a hat.) Children are welcome to keep a pair of snow pants on their hook. Also, please make the necessary changes to your child's spare clothes box and label all their belongings.



Founders' Week Auction

During Founders' Week (February 26 through March 1), ASM will host an auction! This event will help our school raise funds for our Founders' Fund for Teaching Excellence; which is an endowment focused on continued professional development opportunities for ASM faculty and staff. The students have been working on our classroom's auction item and it has been exciting to see them working together to create a unique item for one lucky family to take home. We can't wait for you to see!

Get ready to bid on this exclusive creation representing the 2023-2024 Willow class!

[Click here for more classroom photos!](#)