



Preschool Update:

January

“For ourselves, and for our planet, we must be both strong and strongly connected – with each other, with the earth. As children, we need time to wander, to be outside, to nibble on icicles, [...] to lie back and contemplate clouds.” – Nabhan and Trimble,

Seasonal Fun:

- We mixed colours and made more ice cube jewels – which later needed to be thrown under the deck to help put out a restaurant fire.
- We climbed and slid down big snow piles.
- We did plenty of skiing on the ski trails.
- We baked pumpkin tarts and did art projects inside.



Our Learning Adventures:

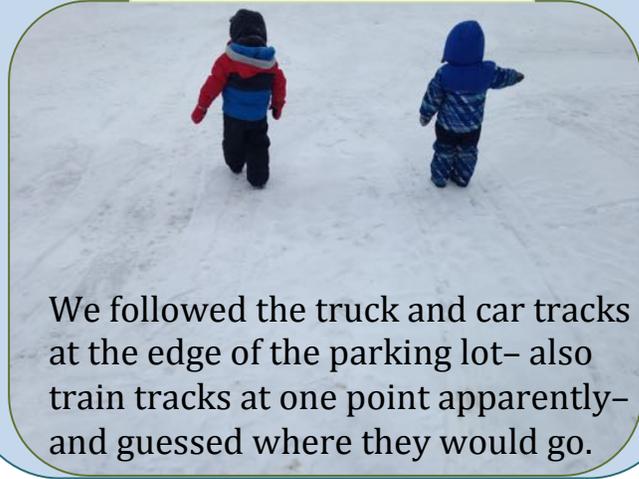
Imaginative Play:



Ordering hot chocolate from the restaurant.

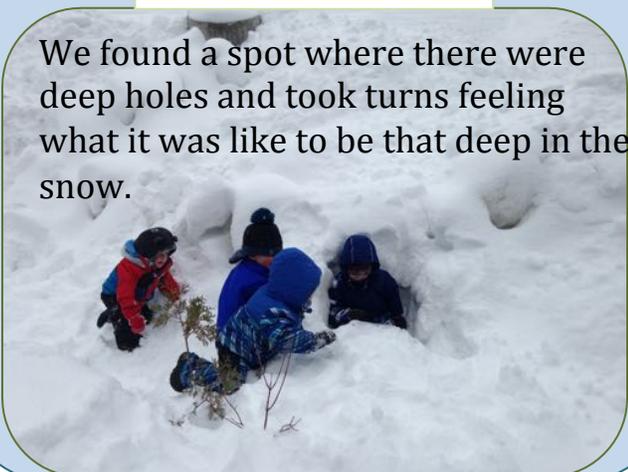
(It caught fire soon after.)

Science and Technology:



We followed the truck and car tracks at the edge of the parking lot– also train tracks at one point apparently– and guessed where they would go.

Sensory Experiences:



We found a spot where there were deep holes and took turns feeling what it was like to be that deep in the snow.

Mathematics:



“How big is the red bear?”

More Learning Adventures:

Creative Art Experiences:



We made masterpieces with our feet.

Language and Literacy:

We told a story about finding different shapes in the snow while we walked.



Gross Motor:

Skiing!



Fine Motor:

We baked pumpkin tarts together and some helped to chop veggies for some meals.

Construction:



“Quick, take a picture of the biggest fort ever!”



An exciting event:

One very cold Friday, the preschoolers and Katie got busy with our craft supplies and created a whole herd (flock? gaggle?) of monster puppets.



Some Favourite Stories, Rhymes and Songs:

- *I Broke my Trunk*, by: Mo Willems
- *Boo-Hoo Bird*, by: Jeremy Tankard
- *2-4-6-8 who do we appreciate?*, song from my childhood



Nature Observations and Discoveries:

One morning some children noticed that there was light powdery snow, icier snow, and big snow pieces. This prompted them to make a snow stew (and to taste it too).



We are still watching for tracks in the snow. On one ski adventure we found puppy tracks.

The art of relaxation.



Notes for Next Month:

Possible activities:

(As always activities depend on interests, weather, and energy levels)

- More snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.
- Bringing in branches and watching their leaves grow early.
- Building more ice blocks and 'jewels'.

What to wear:

February may bring some more days with warmer temperatures - temperatures approaching a balmy 1°C. On these warmer days the snow will be wetter and a pair of **splash pants** worn inside the snow pants (or outside if they are big enough) can help a child to feel dry while they are crawling, climbing, and generally exploring.

We will have the dryer on the ready when we get inside but, splash pants can help to keep comfortable outside.

Please contact us with any questions or concerns:

North Bay, ON • (705) 358-1541 • info@natureandyou.org