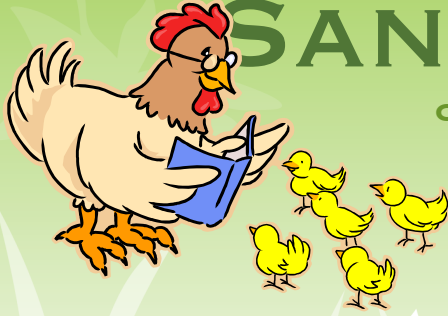


THE

SANDY LAND PRESS

CALIFORNIA STATE DAY CARE LICENSE NUMBER
270767404**Happy Valentines Day**

It's that time of year again to remind those we care about how much we love them. Is love about big hearts filled with chocolates? Is love a sweet red card covered with hearts and lace? Maybe love is about a dozen long stem red roses, or a fine bottle of wine. What is love? I always remember where I learned what love truly is.

It is in the Bible 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Love is patient, love is kind.

It does not envy, it does not boast,
it is not proud. It is not rude,

it is not self-seeking,

it is not easily angered,

it keeps no record of wrongs.

Love does not delight in evil
but celebrates with the truth.

It always protects, always trust,

**VALENTINES DAY PARTY**

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND CARDS FOR YOUR CHILDREN TO SHARE WITH THEIR FRIENDS.

COOKIES, YOGURT, FRUIT ARE ALWAYS WELCOME ADDITIONS TO OUR PARTY.

KYLE ~ SOPHIE ~ JACK

EMILY ~ MITCHELL ~ KENDALL

Art projects are part of a theme that the group is studying. For example, as part of the seasons' curriculum, the children might gather leaves, during a fall nature walk. They will later use them in art projects, such as to make leaf rubbings, to assemble in collages, or to use as a way to build a creative turkey.

Our art will incorporate a variety of materials, different colors, textures, acquired in a variety of ways from recycling to new. There is a shared easel for painting.

What we learn - A good art project teaches a child that his creativity is limited only by his own imagination. By transforming everyday objects, such as empty paper towel rolls and egg cartons into sculptures, imaginary bugs, or spyglasses, a child discovers that he can create a world of play.

Using materials in an art project reinforces and expands on the information a child has already learned in other contexts. For example, let's assume that the art project of the day is to make rubbings of leaves collected during a nature walk the day before. If from a pile on the table, the child selects a dry leaf that crumbles easily, the youngster learns, in a concrete way, about life cycles in nature. Through trial and error, just like the scientist in a lab, the child might find that green leaves or shiny leaves hold up better for this art project.

Another art project might have the youngsters create a fall mural by pasting stickers to a large paper. They might organize the project by sorting and classifying the stickers, by color, shape, and size. These are pre reading and pre math skills--as well as fun. In this same project, the group also learns social skills such as cooperative and group dynamics. Do the two-year-olds know this as they happily create a fall mural--probably not, but we certainly do.

Art projects are also excellent for developing a child's fine-motor skills. It takes small-muscle control in order to manipulate clay, paint with a brush, and color with markers or crayons. As these skills are practiced, they help a child gain mastery to cut with a knife, button his own shirt, and print his name.

Art projects build a child's self-esteem. The finished product, on display on the art wall, validates a child's of worth. It's another opportunity for a child to say "I can do it!"

The process, not the product, is the most important element of preschool art projects.

