



Enrichment Class May 2.5 May Newsletter

When is a box not a box? When it is in the hands of child. Then it becomes a train, a racetrack, a sled, a car, a hideout, a dollhouse and anything else they can imagine. One of my favorite books is Not a Box by Antoinette Portis. This book offers us many opportunities to practice our YOGA skills. The Robot (move & freeze like robots We will also incorporate mindfulness to see how closely the kids can imitate specific robot movements), balloon breathing, and humming breath (as we are thinking “Hmm”). **Affirmation:** I am creative – I use my imagination! My box can be anything!

Not a Stick by Antoinette Portis captures the thrill of when pretend feels so real that it becomes real. With a stick in hand, the options are endless—whether it's conducting an orchestra, painting a masterpiece, or slaying a dragon—give a child a stick and let imagination take over and the magic begin. We will go on a stick finding mission outdoors and create a masterpiece of our own design. My Sticks can be anything!

The Squiggle by Carole Lexa Schaefer will encourage us to explore art through a squiggle. What magic can be found in a piece of string? The magic of a million incarnations, when the string is found by an imaginative little girl who spies it on the sidewalk. Slither, slish--it could be the dance of a scaly dragon, or, push-a-pat--the top of the Great Wall of China. Unique illustrations, inspired by Asian brush-stroke paintings, transform the simple thread into fireworks, thunderclouds, and even the moon. My string can be anything!

The way to create human beings with imagination is to provide them with opportunities to develop it for themselves when they are very young. These opportunities are found in one place and one place only... play. We love playing with paints, play dough, costumes, glue and with crayons. We like making a mess. We love exploring the woods. We like splashing in a puddle. We wonder at a caterpillar inching by us. We pretend to be a bird, gliding through the sky.

We have thoroughly enjoyed our year of 2.5 Enrichment class. We have fostered new friendships, learned problem solving skills, and encouraged each other. We've spent time outside, worked on verbal activities and encouraged art. The students have bonded and learned to cooperate to accomplish tasks. We look forward to seeing them continue to grow in the next year our classroom door is always open to help you celebrate their accomplishments.

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