



March 2020

## EELC-Ruth Pawson



## Cultural Showcase: Morocco

**Preschoolers-** After researching the Moroccan flag, we discovered it contains a green star on a red background. To recreate the flag, we glued Popsicle sticks in the same shape, painted them green and attached them to red construction paper. We studied pictures from around Morocco. We loved seeing their market pictures. We compared how the Moroccan market is different than our Farmer's Market and shared what was our favorite part of the Morocco market. As jewelry was a quick winner with almost all the votes, we created our own tassel necklaces out of yarn, pipe cleaners and beads to represent the necklaces in the pictures.

**Kinders-** For our cultural showcase of Morocco the kinders made tassel necklaces with stretchy cord, beads and yarn tassels. We also studied pictures of the animals commonly found in Morocco.

**Schoolers-** For our cultural showcase of Morocco, the schoolers made henna hand prints. First, the schoolers traced their hand and some of their arm onto black paper. Then they cut out their hand and used chalk to make henna designs on the paper.

### Director's Message

Parent's, I would like to take this time to thank you for all of your kind words, understanding and support during these very difficult and unpredictable times.

I would also like to acknowledge the amazing work of the supervisors and educators to ensure children felt safe, secure and continued to have fun during such stressful times. Their dedication and caring attitude has never been more apparent.

Once again, we want to assure you that we will resume operations as soon as possible and that your child/ren's space in the centre are secure. Rest assured that no fees are required during our closure or to secure your space. We will share relevant updates from the Ministry of Education as they come available.

Thank you for your continued support. Please be safe and be well.

### Supervisor's Message

I want to thank everyone for their patience and understanding through this difficult time. My staff and I will miss spending time with your amazing children and the daily interactions with you. We hope everyone takes care of themselves and family. We will see you very soon!

**Life's too short to wake up with regrets.  
So love the people who treat you right,  
forgive the ones who don't and believe that  
everything happens for a reason.  
If you get a chance, take it. If it changes  
your life, let it. Nobody said it'd be easy,  
they just promised it would be worth it.**

-- Dr. Seuss

## Anthonya's Toddler Group

As the toddlers really appear to enjoy reading "The Foot Book" by Dr. Seuss, we decided to create our own. We used red, blue, yellow and green to paint our feet and create footprints. When the paint was dry, we folded our papers to represent a book.

While painting our feet for the foot book, the toddlers showed an interest in colors. One of their favorite activities related to colors was a sorting game. The game included different colors such as red, purple, green, pink, yellow, white, brown and orange construction paper and cards. The toddlers then took turns to place the right card color to the matching construction paper. Throughout the days, you could hear the toddlers frequently telling the staff what colors different toys or objects were as well as sorting toys by color.

To celebrate St. Patrick's Day, the group created shamrock art pieces. Using glue, they attached cotton balls onto the shamrock shape. Next, they painted the cotton balls green. The toddlers also frequently enjoyed playing in the St. Patrick's Day sensory bin. They would eagerly look for as many coins as possible or excitedly show their friends the sequins they found.



## Faron's Famous Brownie Recipe:

- 1 ½ cups of flour
- 1 tsp of salt
- 2 cups of sugar
- ½ cup of cocoa
- 2 tsp of vanilla
- 1 cup of oil
- 4 eggs
- ¼ cup of water
- ½ cup of chocolate chips

Put in order into a bowl. Mix all together to remove all lumps. Pour into a 9 X 13 pan. Cook at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Let cool and ice if you please. ENJOY!



## Dominic's Junior Preschool Group

One of the main interests in March for the junior preschool group revolved around St. Patrick's Day. We began this interest by making footprint shamrocks. With assistance from the educator, the children painted their feet green and stamped the footprint four times. When the footprints dried, they were cut out and arranged to look like a shamrock and glued onto a black construction paper with a green pipe cleaner for the stem. While working through the shamrock footprint process, Dominic shared some of the history of St. Patrick's Day with the children. The group also had discussions on what the popular colors are that represent the day. As the group began to learn more about St. Patrick's Day, the children decided to build traps to catch a leprechaun. The children used the balance beams as a house and tried to build the interior. They piled up the blocks so that they could catch the Leprechaun in the house that they made. As we discussed the pot of gold significance, the children played with shaving cream and added sparkles to represent the gold. They repeatedly mixed the shaving cream and sparkles together, then spread it out again on the table to see if they located more sparkles each time. Another highlight from our month was the outing to Regent Place Library. While at the library, we attended a story time about animals, numbers and rhyming words, sang songs, played "Follow the Leader" and participated in flannel stories. Prior to returning to the centre, we chose some books to check out and bring back to the centre to enjoy. Our favorite part of the outing was riding the bus. All the children were very excited!

## Cheri's Senior Preschool Group

At the end of February, Nicole, a research student from the University of Regina came to the centre to conduct a research project with any three year olds. During the research project, Nicole read the children a short book about snakes. This led to the children's new interest in snakes. We brought in some more books filled with facts about snakes such as where they live, the different kinds of snakes, how to tell if a snake is poisonous or not, and what they eat. Upon learning that snakes can be different colors and designs, we created our own colorful patterned snakes on paper and cut them out to hand in a fake tree as tree snakes. We also created snakes out of playdough. Using what we learned about snakes, we made a list of things we needed to make a sensory play area to represent four areas of where we would find a snake living. We created a grass area, a rock area, dirt and moss for marsh or water areas. We found different kinds of snakes, worms, bugs and lizards to serve as food sources for the snakes to eat.

Another highlight from the month was baking oatmeal raisin cookies. The children assisted in measuring, scooping, pouring and mixing all the ingredients. While the cookies were baking, a delicious aroma began to fill the centre and make us excited. At snack, we were able to indulge in our cookies. They were perfect!

While on our outing to the Green Park with the kinder group, we observed various signs of spring. The snow had begun to melt which caused puddles during the day but ice at night depending on the temperature. The children tried to see if they could crack the ice where air bubbles were trapped underneath. Another sign of spring we observed were some rabbits. We checked from a distance to see if they had begun to change color yet. We were surprised to find they had brown ears and the backs on some had some streaks of brown as well.



**Fun Activities we want to give our families that we have done in the center. We hope this can provide some fun and entertainment, not only for your children but for your whole family. Activities, supplies needed and instructions included!**

### Glitter Slime

- Elmer's Clear Glue (6oz)
- 2 tablespoons of water
- Glitter
- ½ teaspoon of baking soda
- Liquid food coloring
- 1-1.5 tablespoons of Contact lens solution



### Best Ever No-Cook Play Dough Recipe

- 2 cups of plain flour (all purpose)
- 4 tablespoons of vegetable oil
- ½ cup salt
- 2 tablespoons of cream of tartar
- Up to 1.5 cups of boiling water (added in increments until you get the right consistency)
- Food coloring (optional)

Step 1 – Add all dry ingredients, mix and make a well

Step 2 – Add wet ingredients in a separate bowl, then combine into dry ingredients slowly.

### Unbreakable Bubble Recipe

- 3 cups of water
- 1 cup of liquid dish detergent
- ½ cup of white corn syrup

Simply stir the ingredients together to make the bubble solution. You can also use dark corn syrup just as easily as white corn syrup, but the solution will be colored. You can also add food coloring or glow paint to color the bubbles.



### Homemade Air Dry Clay:

- 2 cup baking soda
- 1 cup corn starch
- 1 ½ cup water

Directions:

Combine and stir baking soda and corn starch. Add in water and stir until everything is thoroughly wet. Place on stove over medium heat and cook until the ingredients form a ball. Remove from stove and knead to reduce water. Once excess water is removed, knead on cutting board with corn starch until smooth and cool.

### Chocolate Play Dough:

- 2 cups water
- 1 ½ cup white flour
- 1 cup salt
- 2 tablespoon oil
- 1 ½ teaspoon cream of tartar

Directions:

Combine all ingredients in pan. Stir over medium heat till combined and the dough begins to form. Remove from heat. Allow to cool properly to knead with hands. If too sticky, add more flour.



### Puffy Paint:

- ¼ Cup Flour, 1-3 Drops Food Coloring, ¼ Cup White Glue, ¾ Cup Shaving Cream OR One half Shaving Cream and One half White Glue, Drops of food coloring

Mix ingredients together and paint on cardboard as may soak through paper



### **No-mess Shaving Cream Bags**

- Large Ziploc bag
- Shaving cream
- Food coloring
- Duct tape

Fill one bag 2/3 of the way with shaving cream, drop in a couple of drops of food coloring. Gently squish the air out of the bag, sealing the top and then taping the closure. Then allow the children to squish the bag to incorporate the color and draw letters/shapes/numbers on the bag using their fingers. Simply squish the bag to start over!



### **Bubble Foam:**

2 parts water to 1 part sunlight detergent—or any children's bubble bath

Food color—optional

Mix with electric mixer until peaks are formed---have fun



### **Sun Catcher/Wind Spinners:**

An old CD, foam stickers, gem stickers, permanent markers, fishing wire

Have your child decorate the CD as you wish and then tie a fishing wire to hang from your tree or window.



### **Edible Pudding Slime:**

1/4 Cup Instant Pudding Mix, 1 Cup Corn Starch, 1/3 Cup Warm Water

Add instant pudding mix and half of your cornstarch into a mixing bowl. Add 1/3 cup of water and stir until slime begins to form (it will be pretty sticky at this point). Slowly add the rest of the cornstarch, stirring as you go. When slime thickens and is hard to stir with a spoon, finish by kneading by hand. Knead for 3-5 minutes.

If it is still sticky – add a bit more corn starch

If it is still too dry – add a bit more water

### **Ice painting:**

Freeze colored ice cubes, using food coloring and Popsicle sticks inserted and have the children paint, and create new colors



## Dana and Shayla's Kinder Group

In March, the kinder group was very interested in Pokémon. For creative art, the kinders used cotton balls and water color paint to create their own poke ball. The kinders also enjoyed some of the nice weather that we have been experiencing lately, by creating sand pies in the back yard as well as making giant sand castles.

For our outing this month, the kinder and senior preschool groups went to the "Green Park". Even though it was cool and windy at the park, the children used their motor skills to climb up on the stretcher and tried to catch the couple of rabbits that the children saw at the park. Although the kinders are fast runners, they were not able to successfully catch up to the rabbits.

Another interest of the group was sensory play. We created puffy paint by mixing glue and shaving together. Then, we used the mixture on abstract art pictures to make it more three dimensional. We also made our own air dry clay mixture using baking soda, water, and corn starch. Once we had the perfect consistency for our clay, we added green water color paint and sculpted the clay to make shamrocks. With St. Patrick's Day approaching, the children showed an interest in the holiday, specifically leprechauns. Working along with the senior preschool group, the children collaborated and built a leprechaun trap complete with a ladder on the outside and slide on the inside in hopes the leprechaun would not be able to climb out after going down the slide. Unfortunately, the leprechaun was too clever and escaped. The children used toilet paper rolls to create their own leprechauns based off what they thought one would look like. They painted the rolls green with purple, yellow and blue and added facial features and hats to complete the look.



## Shayla and Katie's Schooler Group

This month the schoolers were very interested in crocheting still. Most mornings you could find one or two schoolers learning the first couple of steps to crocheting, making a slip knot and chain. Some of the schoolers caught on quick and were making chains like professionals. Other schoolers needed an extra hand getting started. The schoolers worked together to assist one another when they saw that some needed help.

From there, the schoolers started to ask to make more advanced crochet projects. One schooler asked how to make a crochet octopus while others just made up their own things. Even though crocheting is very popular in the schooler room, other children would rather do word puzzles or riddles. Some mornings while getting ready for school, the schoolers would ask each other a riddle or two while they waited for the bell to ring. Some of the riddles the schoolers got the answer quickly, but others seemed more difficult to figure out the answer. After guessing a couple of guesses and not getting the correct answer the schoolers told each other the answer; it seemed so simple but not thought of at the time.

With St. Patrick's Day approaching, the schoolers made dot art. For their dot art, the schoolers utilized Q-tips as their paint brush. The Q-tips were used to create dots that would form their picture.

The schoolers also were very excited to make jellyfish in a bottle. They used Ziploc bags, elastic bands, blue water color and water. The first step was to cut a corner of the Ziploc bag and then to put on an elastic band around the middle of the bag. They cut the open part of the jellyfish to make the tentacles. After they finished making the tentacles, the schoolers put a couple of drops of blue water color and a bit of water into their bottles, added the Ziploc bag jellyfish and filled the bottle the rest of the way.



## Contact us

Dana Stadnyk -Supervisor  
EELC-Ruth Pawson – 40 Weekes Cres  
P 306-751-4504 F 306-751-4505  
[ehrlo.com/earlylearningcentre](http://ehrlo.com/earlylearningcentre)