

The Comets' Comments

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SUMMER 2010

Summer Fun

Our field trips this summer took us all over Manhattan as we explored land as water. We began by going to **Top of the Rock** to see New York City. The Comets were able to identify land and water and used a map of the boroughs to identify what we were seeing. Back at school the class created their own map of NYC. We added vehicles, living and non living things found in water and on land, and finally each Comet placed a photograph on the map where he or she lives.



Our summer excursions ended with two great park trips- **Wild West** and **River Run**. Both parks have canals that run through the play area. In preparation each Comet made a boat to sail down the river. It was very interesting to discover which boats went faster and slower. The entire class played together and really enjoyed themselves.

The **Harlem Meer** was also a great trip where the Comets were able to experience living things in water first hand. Within the first few minutes of baiting our fishing lines we were lucky enough to catch and Pumpkinseed fish. While fishing the class saw turtles, ducks, and lots of seaweed!



Author Study— Mo Willems

Mo Willems is the Comets' favorite author without any doubt! This summer we studied Mo Willems Elephant and Piggie books. Each week we read several books and then identified the characters, setting, problem, and solution. The Comets became such experts in Mo Willems books that they were able to figure out which character was talking based on the color of the speech bubble. They also realized that most of his books are set outside. The Comets were so excited about these stories that they began to create their own Elephant and Piggie books throughout the day if you stop by the Comet room you are guaranteed to hear a Comet reading one of year books with enthusiasm.



Parent Visits

Parent visits this summer were definitely a highlight. Many moms and dads joined the Comet room for a special activity. The Comets decorated summer backpacks, made spin art, learned about other countries, celebrated each other's birthdays, and read stories together. Thank you to all of the families that were able to participate.



Swimming at Asphalt Green

This summer the Comets have enjoyed swimming at Asphalt Green. Although many nervous and apprehensive in the beginning by the end of the summer program each Comet braved the water. The Comets learned to put their faces into the water to blow bubbles, kick their legs, and even began to use big arms as they learned basic swimming techniques. At the end of each swim session the class enjoyed free time where they played with one another on rafts using noodles and kick boards.



Themed Fridays

Themed Fridays this summer were a huge success. Each Friday the Comets came to school in a different theme. It all began with Silly Hat Day, Dress Like Your Favorite Letter Puppet, Tie Dye Day, Favorite Color Day, and ended with Pajama/ Camping Day! It was a wonderful way for the entire class to come together and be super silly with one another.



Plan Do Review



Dominick and Anthony learn how to play our new game Sorry.



Max and Gabriel play dollhouse together.



Anthony, Dominick, Benjamin and Jamel play rhyming BINGO, another new game!



Benjamin and Jamel are working hard with the collage box. They are working together to learn how to tie things up.



Benjamin and Jacob attach themselves together using straws and connectors. They are now cars in a train.



Camille and Max are using Kid K'Nex to build insects.



Gabriel and Lucas are playing Sorry together.



Benjamin, Jamel and Gabriel explore shaving cream!

Thank You...

Dear Families,

This year has been wonderful thanks to you and your continued support and enthusiasm. We have loved working with you and your child. The year has been filled with many exciting activities including fieldtrips, The Letter People, letter of the week, community helpers, and a favorite— our cooking! The Comets have all grown so much and we will truly miss them. Together they learned about whole body listening, being thoughtful and friendly, responsibility, team work, and how to show one another that they care. As the year comes to an end we wish everyone the best.

We say good-bye to Max and Sarina. Max is moving on to a new school and hope he comes to visit. Sarina will be beginning graduate school to become a social worker. They will truly be missed by all of Comets!

Have a wonderful summer vacation. We look forward to seeing everyone in the fall.

Best,

Kara, Stacey, Sarina, and Krystle