



EARTH WORMS

NATURE school

November 2019

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A Welcome Song

Welcome to our school
where we're wild and free,
where we build forts with sticks
and we play in the trees.
When we are playing outside
our minds are so free
and the air is so clear.
Summer, Fall, Winter, and Spring
we keep growing and growing
like all living things.

EMERGENT CURRICULUM

Nature Knowledge

The pond is freezing and looks different every day. We have been finding a few critters who are still moving around and enjoy building homes for them.

STEM

We are learning how to build fires and why fire is dangerous. We are also building a water channel that goes from the pump to the pond.

Kindness

We are learning that good leaders are helpful and notice when someone needs a friend.

Motor Skills

We helped to build a slide and have been enjoying climbing and playing on it.

Pre Literacy

We now have a school mailbox and have been practicing writing letters to friends.

Creativity

We have a new "stage" and have been putting on plays and concerts.



NATURE NEWS :

Insects move slower when they are cold.

The heavier the object the more likely it is to break the ice when thrown on the pond.

Worms and Salamanders hibernate.

It's easier to climb a tree next to the trunk where the branches are thick and strong.

Fire needs oxygen just like we do.

Ponderosa pine cones are pokey.

Apples roll better than pinecones and acorns.



SECOND ANNUAL WINTER SOLSTICE LANTERN WALK

December 14th 2pm

Lantern Making Workshop

December 21st 3:30pm

Solstice Celebration

Lantern Walk, Roasting over the fire, songs, hot drinks. Bring a snack to share!

DON'T FORGET!

NO SCHOOL DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 3

We Hear You

While hiking to the yurt, the long way around, a child says "I'm tired". The teacher quickly chimes in, "Let's take a break!" and begins to notice the nearby ponderosa offering a delicious pine needle snack. It's a great opportunity to talk about the different types of evergreens and how they each have special characteristics. Teachers and students taste the pine needles, learning that they contain Vitamin C, some are heard saying "yuck" and others saying "yum"! We talk about how we each have different likes and dislikes and model using phrases like "I don't like that" or "no thanks". A moment later everyone is ready to continue the hike and a child is heard thanking the tree for it's medicine.

There are many opportunities in our day to slow down and listen to the child. We want them each to know that their words are meaningful and that they have to space and time to express their needs and wants. They don't always get what they want, often after a discussion it becomes clear why their request may not be possible, and they are satisfied having been heard.

We are grateful for a slow pace at school where we have time to listen, because often, children say the most wonderful things!