



October Little STEAMers

Dear Little STEAMer Families,

We are off to a great start in our Little STEAMers class! In September we explored coconuts with our senses, built towers out of different objects, and explored all things apples!

This month, we begin by observing traits about ourselves and others to discover how we are alike and how we are different. The rest of the month we will explore Halloween themes like spiders, monsters and pumpkins.

October Classes:

(10/4) **Full STEAM Ahead: All About Me-** Our challenge for the day is to design and build a face with loose parts such as buttons, yarn, and shells to name a few. Students will then use a camera to take a picture of their face to build a class book. We will make self-portrait figures to use in our block building center and have a chance to explore our fingerprints with a magnifying glass. We will use observation to see things that are alike and things that are different about us.

(10/11) **Exploring Force: Magnetic Spiders-** *The Very Busy Spider* by Eric Carle will spark our discussion and exploration about spiders. We use our classroom Chromebooks for the first time to “research” types of spider webs. Students will create their own spider web. The challenge for the day is to use magnetic force to move the spider across the web. There will be several magnetic tinker tubs for the children to experiment with at our centers as well as playdough to make spiders and count legs and spider ring stacking and patterning.

(10/18) **Monster Fun: Chemical Reactions-** We will make monster slime together as we describe how the ingredients change as we mix them. Children will make ink blot monsters in our art center and build with a new toy, Bunchems (colorful Velcro balls). We will predict and observe what happens when you mix baking soda and vinegar. We will use this knowledge to perform magic to inflate a monster balloon!

(10/25) **Pumpkins: Force, Motion & Gravity-** As we get closer to Halloween, we will carve a pumpkin to discover the parts of a pumpkin and learn about the life cycle of a pumpkin. The challenge of the day is to discover different ways to move a heavy pumpkin across the pumpkin patch. Children will explore inclined planes and how this may help move a pumpkin.

Beginning in October, we will start our STEAMer of the Week. You will receive a separate email from Sign Up Genius to pick a day for your child.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at ckjosche@gmail.com.

Ms. Carrie and Ms. Paola