



Oct. 3's 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, explored all things apples, and observed traits about ourselves and others to discover how we are alike and how we are different.

This month, we look forward to some fun October and Halloween themes such as spiders, monsters, and pumpkins.

October Classes:

(10/7) **Exploring Force: Magnetic Spiders-** *The Very Busy Spider* by Eric Carle will spark our discussion and exploration about spiders. We will use our classroom Chromebooks and other resources 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 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.

(10/14) **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!

(10/21) **Engineering: Barn Building-** In this class we will talk about all things on the farm! We will read the book *Big Red Barn* by Margaret Wise Brown and use our Chromebooks and other resources to "research" various types of barns and farm animals. Our Steam Challenge will be to design and build a barn that holds the most animals and we will enjoy singing and moving along to farm songs.

(10/28) **Pumpkins: Force, Motion & Gravity-** As we get close 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. We look forward to seeing you in October!

Mrs. Carlberg and Mrs. Jacobs