[FRM]

**StoryMaking Unit 1**

*Using Materials found in Nature to Tell Our Stories*

Date:

Dear Parents,

During the first quarter, we launched our very first StoryMaking unit. This special part of our day allows your child to play with a variety of materials such as housekeeping, block, art, and science materials to help them imagine, play, make, and share a story.

Throughout this unit, your child used materials collected on our nature walks to build a characters and stories. It was incredible to see the imagination of every child as they created an animal, insect, or even a special person from their lives. They learned how to come up with their own story ideas, how to start a story, and also how to create an illustration of their story. Our class studied the work of Lois Ehlert, a well-known illustrator of children’s books, to learn how she uses collage techniques to make her stories. We also studied other illustrators to see how they add nature details to their illustrations to better communicate our stories. Your child has now published the story that they have been working on, and we are celebrating all we have learned as StoryMakers.

We are cleaning out our StoryMaking folders to prepare for the next unit. Please find attached a few work samples from this unit that your child created. You might find an illustration where they are beginning to add details to their setting, a picture of them building a story with a material from their explore stations or even a sample of their own writing.

Our next unit will focus on making and telling stories related to color and feelings. We are very excited about beginning this new StoryMaking unit! I can’t wait to share with you all the stories that emerge from your child during second quarter as we investigate new emergent writing skills and strategies.

Sincerely,

From *StoryMaking: The Maker Movement Approach to Literacy for Early Learners* by Michelle Kay Compton and Robin Chappele Thompson, © 2018. Published by Redleaf Press, www.redleafpress.org. This page may be reproduced for classroom use only.

[FRM]