



Cresco Montessori School

Ms.Kavitha and Ms.Sarah's Classroom Newsletter Jan 2012



Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right !

Dear Parents,

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year . I can't believe it's January 2012. Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season.

During the month of January we will learn about the changes in weather and also some important science facts about water. We will learn about the three states of matter 1. Solids 2. Liquids and 3. Gases. Water is the ONLY substance found naturally on Earth in three forms: liquid, gas and solid. Frozen water is 9% lighter than its liquid form and hence, ice floats on water.

This month we will be learning about the continent Antarctica and most important about Penguins.

Here are some facts you might find interesting about Antarctica

Antarctica is located at the South Pole and is surrounded by the Southern Ocean. Over 98% of Antarctica is covered by ice. It is the driest and coldest continent on earth. Antarctica is the fifth largest continent based on size, but it is the smallest in population with a population of 0 (although some people do visit). Some animals do survive in the cold and dry climate of Antarctica. These animals include penguins, seals, and the snow petrel (a bird). Antarctica has no countries and any country owns no portions of the continent.

Fun Facts about Antarctica:

Antarctica is the windiest place on earth.

There is as much ice on Antarctica as there is water in the Atlantic Ocean.

The lowest recorded temperature in history was -128 degrees F in Antarctica.

Antarctica has the highest average elevation of any continent. This is due to all the ice on it.

Penguins

- Penguins are birds that cannot fly. Like all birds, they lay eggs and have feathers and beaks or bills.
- They are great swimmers and divers.
- Their wings work as paddle for swimming.
- The torpedo shape of their body helps them swim at high speeds.
- They can also waddle on land.
- Male penguins take care of their chicks.
- Parents take turns warming the egg.
- Female penguins go for searching foods.
- In cold places, males balance eggs on their feet and cover with belly flap to keep them warm.
- They usually move within groups.
- They eat snow as a source of fresh water.
- They take small naps in the water.
- Penguins use sign language to communicate with each other.
- They make use of their flippers and head to talk to other penguins.

Adelie



Adelie's are the most common penguins in Antarctica. They are small and weighs only 11 pounds. Like most penguins the females lay two eggs every year.

Chinstrap



Chinstraps are known by the thin black stripe under their chins. They make nests out of pebbles. They guard their nests very fiercely.

Gentoo



Gentoo penguins have bright orange bills and white marks on their heads. They also have pebble nests that they guard carefully. Sometimes they steal rocks from other nests.

Macaroni



Macaroni penguins have a crest of yellow feathers on their heads. They get their name from the fashionable English men in the 1700's nicknamed "macaronis" who wore feathers in their hats.

Emperor



Emperors are the tallest penguins almost four feet tall. Unlike most of other penguins, emperor penguins lay only one egg. Emperor penguins get their names because they look royal. They stand very tall and straight. Their yellow neck feathers and their black and white coat make them seem dressed up. Male and Female emperors look alike.

This is a really cool website about Penguins. Please view the slideshow with your child. I think it will be a fun activity for the both of you. There are twelve slides in the show and you will need to read the information to your children.

<http://www.siec.k12.in.us/~west/proj/penguins/main.html>

General Information

8.15 to 8.30 am carpool time children can be dropped off at school.

8.30 am to 10.30 am Montessori work time. If your child comes after 8.30 am, please make sure your child enters the classroom quietly. The children in the class have already started working and I don't want them to get distracted.

Please talk to your children about working quietly and independently in the classroom and also about following the rules.

Please talk to your child to choose a language and math work everyday.

If your child brings home a book please make sure to read the book with your child and please sign it so that I will know that you read the book with your child. Please handle the books with care.

Please make sure your child has weather appropriate clothes in their cubbies. Very Important

Food Prep and Flower arrangement will start from this week and the sign up sheet will be posted outside the classroom.

Reading parents are welcome from 8:30 am to 10 am

Regards

Kavitha Christopher