

It truly was "a beautiful day in the neighborhood"... all week long! We began the week with Mr. Roger's song and a discussion about neighborhoods and neighbors. Tuesday we walked 3240 steps to the Discovery Center and back! We learned about, saw and touched toads, frogs, and salamanders, and even saw a monarch butterfly be tagged and released to begin its journey to Mexico. We explored things that we got from the pond in our nets and tried to catch insects before heading back to school. A VERY HUGE "thank you" to Ellie's mom Sara Storr, Landon's great-grandma Edna Rexroth, Hannah's grandma Teresa Chatfield, Maddie's mom Lori Heater, and Owen's mom Lucie Booth for walking with us. We could not have gone without you!

Wednesday we made a map of our trip and a frog pond "thank you" for the Discovery Center (on display there if you'd like to see it), Thursday we had a mini-adventure of walking to our neighbors, Muscatine High School, and Friday we are graphing with Bug Bites cookies and making ice cream in a bag.

Our big excitement each day is watching the 3 monarch caterpillars plus a fuzzy caterpillar eat MANY milkweed leaves. They are definitely growing and will hopefully turn into chrysalises soon.

Our first book orders came in this week and we have one set that didn't have a name on the order form. If this is your order, please email or send a note to school.

The treasure boxes are now complete with a key and tag on the inside that says, "The key to reading success is practicing every night." Give your children that advantage by reading to them every day!

Our theme next week is "Apples, Apples, Apples!" Please send an apple to school on Tuesday September 22. We will do math activities with our apples as well as make crockpot applesauce and dehydrate some too.

Help Needed! The Bishop Hayes Auction will be November 7 and each class has been asked by Home and School to make a project to be auctioned. I need a few parents who are willing to come in to our class to help the children make something. First we need a great idea! Please let me know soon if you have an idea and/or can help make it happen.

Looking ahead... There is no school on Monday September 28. The teachers have an all-day inservice. Please remember to have your family pages for our class "Home Families" book to school by Tuesday September 29.

Have a great weekend!

Norma Morrison
September 18, 2009