

Children Enjoy Field Trips at CJP

The month of October was busy with fun-filled field trips for children in the threes, fours and Pre-K at CJP. On October 13, the children in the three-year-old classes enjoyed a wonderful experience at Hunter Farms in Weddington, NC. The trip corresponded with the celebration of Sukkot and all of the children were looking forward to it. The day started with a bumpy hayride around the farm. The first stop was at the barn where lots of giggles could be heard as the goats and sheep tickled them as they ate from the children's hands. The children were also very excited to see chickens, baby pigs, bunnies, a horse and a cow. When it was time to leave the barn, the tractor brought everyone back for a picnic lunch. The children had lots of fun eating outdoors with all of their friends. The highlight of the trip was the final activity of the day, picking pumpkins for Sukkot. Every child found their favorite pumpkin in the patch and held them proudly on the trip back to CJP. Their faces were beaming from the excitement and wonderful memories of the day. CJP teachers used their own pumpkins to provide the students with some additional hands-on experiences back at school the next week when they cut open their pumpkin from the trip. What a fun way to develop language skills describing what they saw smelled and felt, math skills by counting the seeds and art skills when they glued seeds to a pumpkin picture they had colored. Our teachers do an amazing job making learning so exciting and memorable.

Throughout the month of October, the children in the four-



The field trip to Hunters Farm was fun for all.

year-old classes and Pre-K attended an outstanding workshop at Spirit Square's Preschool Arts Lab. The children listened to the story "The Mixed-Up Chameleon" by Eric Carle. Carle uses layering of color to create the characters in his book. This color layering was the focus of the art activities that the children experienced in the open-ended hands-on activity centers throughout the

remainder of the morning. Some of the creative activities included, making chameleon fossils, collaging creative chameleon's out of a variety of materials, mixing colors with a light table and paints, and color layering with tissue paper and glue wash. The workshop supports the developmental approach to learning that is at the core of CJP's philosophy. The children had so much fun as they developed skills using their own individual learning styles in a dynamic and stimulating environment. They were thrilled to take home their creations to share with their families and recreate their wonderful day. The teachers also benefited from the innovative ideas that they can use in their own classrooms. It was an experience that will not be forgotten. ☆

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