

Queneesh Strongstart News

April 2016

We have been exploring worms, tadpoles and our garden. We expect to have our caterpillars arrive this month. We will continue to spend time outside every day at 11:00. Please bring a hat for you and your child to wear. We will visit with the seniors, and go to the nursing lab at North Island College. If you have a child who is starting Kindergarten this fall, please consider completing a transition form to give to your child's school. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at Welcome to Kindergarten events in our school district.

Upcoming Events:

May 2nd: Make cookies for snack. Do you have a favorite family cookie recipe? Many conversations lately have been wondering what your favorite cookie is.

May 6th: StrongStarts in the Valley are closed as we travel to Vancouver for the ECE conference. I will be presenting on the Kindergarten Transition Project.

May 9th: We will visit the Seniors and have a Tea Party. You are welcome to dress up if you like. We will leave StrongStart at 10:15. We might be outside so wear your sun hat.

May 11th: Visit at the Nursing Lab, the nursing students will have some play activities set up for us to explore. The nursing students will spend time talking to families.

May 16: Music class with Ms. Lehton's class, we will go to the music room after gym.

May 17: Field trip to Point Holmes. We will meet the Brooklyn StrongStart families and explore the beach. Meet at the beach at 9:30. Please dress for being outside, and bring water to drink.

May 20th and May 23 : No school.

May 24th: Walk to the secret forest at 11:00.

May 27th: We have been invited to the Teddy Bears's Picnic at Queneesh, watch for more information.

What are we making?

You might have noticed at StrongStart how creative the children have been using art materials. When I set up art activities for the children and parents to explore I consider what I have observed the children doing or talking about.

When I set up the art table I consider; what type of art medium will we explore? What skills will the children develop as they explore the activity? Can the children lead the activity? It is very helpful when adults play beside their child, and explore the art experience too. I try to have opened experiences to support each child's development, and feeling of success.

On Friday May 13th, a team of researchers from the University of Toronto will be at StrongStart to observe and evaluate StrongStart programs. They will spend the morning at StrongStart. They would like to meet with a group of parents after StrongStart at 12:30 until 1:30. I will be with the children so parents can take part in the conversation. If you would like to attend please email: StrongStartBC.evaluation@gmail.com to have your name added to the list. Each family will receive a free book. If you have questions please let me know. I encourage you to be a part of the discussion.

Colleen Friendship