# **Classroom Hot Topics---Blue Room- April**

The arrival of Spring will find the Barn Owls exploring nature all around them. We will be learning about the life cycle of a chicken, observing insects and discovering what plants need to grow. The children will have opportunities to act out the hatching of a chick from an egg. While taking nature walks we will look for insects and snap pictures to make a collage. We will discuss insect habitats then create habitats in the block center. We will have fun taking turns to act like insects! Dramatic play will become a Farmer's Market where children can sell what they pretend to grow. We will plant lima beans and watch what happens. We will observe how plants absorb water and record our observations. This month we will also choose what to plant in our garden plot and see firsthand how our plants grow throughout the season with our care.

April 16 – 20 we will be celebrating the Week of the Young Child with special activities each day. We will have Music Monday, Tasty Tuesday, Work together Wednesday, Artsy Thursday, and Family Friday where we will gather with our families to celebrate the Slaying of the Dragon!

Our final week of April will take us back to Medieval times as we dress as knights and princesses and dramatize the story of St. George and the Dragon. We will identify the parts of a castle and build our own castles by gluing sugar cubes on foil and using blocks in the block center. We will even have a castle in the sensory table and create a moat around it! Our writing will take a new twist by using feather tips to write royal messages. It will be fun to see how light affects gems and jewels on the light table. Water wheels in the sensory table will help us to learn about force and motion as we explore how water causes the wheel to move. Frozen ice castles containing precious jewels will help us learn about cause and effect as we determine whether flour or salt helps us to free the gems!

Looks like the Barn Owls are in for quite a magical time in the Blue Room!

## \*\*\*Chapel\*\*\*

Songs: Down in My Heart, Rejoice in The Lord Always.

<u>Stories</u>: Easter Lesson, Jesus: Through the Eyes of Thomas, Jesus Through the Eyes of His Students, Jesus: Through the Eyes of a Lost Son.

### **Parent Education**

The Week of the Young Child (WOYC), what exactly is it and why do we celebrate it? The NAEYC link below will explain it all! Make sure you check out the FAQ's at the site too.

### https://www.naeyc.org/events/woyc/overview

You can also see all of April's planned activities and their objectives on the lesson plans posted on the parent information board outside of the room.

#### **Monthly Events**

Apr. 3&4 School Picture Day

Apr. 4 PTF Meeting 8-9 AM Kleberg Hall

Apr. 16-20th NAEYC Week of the Young Child

Apr. 20 St. George's Day-Slaying of the Dragon-

9AM

Apr. 22 Knight for St. George's