

Newsletter - **WEEK 3**

Week 3 of Eco-kids Summer Camp was all about **RESPECT**, as children identified with one another and their surroundings. Campers learned that respect for people, animals, plants, places, ideas and all things is necessary to be truly happy! If we respect it means we care, if we care then it means we have feelings, if we have feelings, we create love!

Our campers, from 4 to 14 years old, representing 26 nationalities, have joined together to identify many issues connected to plastic waste. What are we doing or what can we do to combat this plastic waste problem was the main question this week.

Through the many fun and engaging activities, children did find solutions that were really quite simple. Time for us to really start listening to our children and taking action as adults!

Why Plastic? continues to be the question...



Follow this link to see some photos of the campers enjoying week 3:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1QAFxriUq2MKZuN06PUW45s8vuPp113s6>

SPORTS AND TEAMBUILDING

This week was very productive and action-packed in the sports department. Our main focus was motor skills and team building, with a fusion of interesting and challenging brain games which really got the campers thinking!

All campers showed great enthusiasm and were keen participants during the sessions. They continue to display improvement as the weeks progress. Lots of fun was had by all. Keep it up kids!



ECO ACTIVITIES



Following week 3 *plastic* theme, eco activities class brings the kids into the world of disposable plastic like cups, bags, straws and bottles, and lets them see how harmful single-use plastics are to our environment, animals and trees.

The children have learnt that we need to reduce, reuse and recycle if they want to save our planet! Our eco activities this week included creating *no plastic, save the earth* pictures and playing eco games.

IMPROV

We focused on character creation and voice modulation this week and found some amazing and creative personas being presented. As students were invited to perform in front of their peers, risk taking was a priority. I was very happy to see so many young thespians wanting to have a turn, and the performances were very inspiring and real.

As respect was a focus for the week, students were reminded to respect the actor taking the risk as well as to respect the work being done. I was so proud of all groups for taking heed to a very necessary rule in Improv and group work.



ACTIVITIES

Something fun, something new, something easily reproduced at home and a great way to recycle newspapers: papier-mâché. This week in our activities room we made an ambient light diffuser with painted papier-mâché domes and fake tealight candles.

Being an activity in two steps, the kids understand that the outcome of the second session is linked to the success of the first one, and that, by nature, when they actively focus on a task, great results are generated!



COOKING

Carrot Cake and No-bake Cheese Cake

This week our little chefs learned how to use vegetables to make a cake. Some students did not like the carrot at all, but by combining it with cinnamon, sugar and other ingredients, they made very yummy and healthy cakes which changed their minds!

Later in the week, students learned how to make no-bake cheese cakes. Of course, most of the students love cheese. Using cream cheese and other ingredients, they made a smooth and creamy mixture and a crunchy cookie crust. It was definitely very tasty!



EINSTEIN 1

In week 3, Einstein 1 had to say goodbye to some of our friends but we also got to meet some new ones. The new kids have slotted into the class so well and have such positive, happy personalities. This week we learnt about plastic, its harm to our planet, and the solution of recycling. Once again, we were pleasantly surprised at the children's knowledge of this topic and they shared many viewpoints and ideas. For our crafts, we painted paper plates as the ocean and made fish out of recycled plastic bottle tops.

Our life skills this week was all about respect. We discussed many examples of disrespectful and respectful behavior within the classroom as well as how we treat our friends. The children really grasped the topic!



EINSTEIN 2

Week 3 has been busy, busy, busy. Our class has welcomed some new students, and a brand-new theme. Our theme this week was plastic, what it is and how we can repurpose it. Our core value this week was respect. Not only have your little ones been shining in the art of learning, but they have also been excelling in the art of respect, both for one another and for the world around us.

We have made bird feeders out of plastic water bottles and fashionable jewelry out of plastic spoons. Learning and having fun is our top priority here and our class are sure making the most of it. Bring on week 4 – we can't wait!



EINSTEIN 3

This week we focused on plastic. Einstein 3 made a model of a giant crying fish with a stomach full of plastic. The idea is to raise awareness and understanding about plastic pollution in the ocean. We, as Group Leaders, reminded the children to stop littering, and that once it gets to the ocean, any piece of plastic trash that they have thrown away can be mistaken for food by sea creatures. Being smart kids, Einstein 3 easily understood the message.

In addition, we also recycled some plastic materials. We used straws to create picture frames and straw origami. Some students made pencil holders using water bottles. Everyone had fun – well done!



EINSTEIN 4

This week we learnt about the importance of mindfulness and respect. Following the weekly theme, we looked at the devastating impact that plastic can have on the environment.

During our project lessons, we created parachute boys and girls with plastic bags. We also made our own inventions out of plastic and other materials.



EINSTEIN 5

This week, E5 worked on a variety of projects to tackle the problems that plastic causes in our world. We upcycled old plastic bags into parachutes, and we used reclaimed plastic to create unique inventions which brought the kids' imaginations to life! The campers also created colorful infographics to share their knowledge on combatting plastic waste.

In life skills, we learnt about how to respect everybody around us. We explored the concept of mindfulness, and wound down by working collaboratively on mandala drawings. The children had great fun sticking beads onto their mandalas.



EINSTEIN 6

This week, new group E6 we focused on getting to know one another. Next, we looked at respect in our life skills lesson. We had a competition trying to build the longest paper chains of respect. We learnt how important it is to respect our teammates, our family and our environment.

We loved our cooking classes and made awesome inventions to try help save our environment from plastic.



EINSTEIN 7

This week, the kids have done so well and participated in all the games and projects. Everyone learned about the effects of using too much plastic and how it is damaging our planet, especially the ocean. The kids are now fully aware of the rapid changes that are happening to all the living things on earth.

Our campers all contributed in the making of a poster of a dying whale for plastic usage awareness. We did a fish protest by wearing little fish hats while collecting plastic trash.

In addition to this, they've brainstormed on how we can upcycle used plastic bags and came up with the idea of making photo frames using braided plastics.

Children learnt that they can show respect to all the living things and to our Earth as a whole. They argued on the idea that respect is not gained but everyone deserves to be respected and it's everyone's duty to respect others.



EINSTEIN 8

It has been an exciting first week for the E8 campers. This week's life skill was respect. We have such a diverse group of campers and we have learnt how to respect one another and our differences.

The campers have also come up with great ideas on how to reuse plastic and how to reduce plastic usage through creative projects.

What a great start!



DA VINCI 1

The week has been extremely busy for D1. The group has focused on three major tasks this week. We've worked on creative storyboards and a song for the final production. We have also spent some time learning about plastic, the three Rs (*reduce, re-use, recycle*) and the importance of upcycling plastic when possible.

The class prepared upcycled plastic products with ideas ranging from plastic wallets and piggy banks to cellphone holders. In addition, 'Club Cure' gave a presentation to guide children in their understanding of current issues relating to plastic waste and showed them what 'WE' can do to combat this!



DA VINCI 2

This week we said goodbye to some friends, but luckily, we also welcomed some new friends, who immediately settled into the class. The group jumped straight into our plastic project with enthusiasm.

We also really enjoyed learning our song for the final production – everybody loves The Beatles!

I am amazed at the wonderful friendships that have been formed at summer camp. What a week!

