

## ディラン先生の英語遊び (5.6月の活動)

The Himawari, Sumire, and Sakura classes have made great progress over the last two months. During this time the children have participated in a number of different learning activities including song learning, book reading, and arts and crafts in English. Some of our greatest successes have come while playing games designed to challenge the children's English listening skills. Recently, the Sakura class students have played a listening game to help learn how to identify colors while the Himawari and Sumire classes have played listening games focusing on topics such as summertime vocabulary. I am pleased to say that activities such as these have helped create an environment where the children are eager to learn and share their accomplishments as a group.

**Sakura:** The Sakura class has had three lessons in the Months of May and June. During those three lessons we have participated in a number of activities. The children have learned songs to practice introducing themselves and we have spent some time decorating our classroom mural to help create a sense of English time community. Our other activities have included enjoying the story, "The Very hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle and learning to pronounce and listen for the colors red, blue, and yellow.

**Sumire:** The Sumire class completed our first big project in May when the children had their "Thinking Caps" ceremony. The project involved identifying and collecting English writing in magazines and cutout sheets and pasting them on to homemade caps. The purpose of this project was to create a positive and successful attitude towards English class while at the same time raising the children's awareness of English in the world around them.

The Sumire class has also spent some time playing games that have encouraged the children to speak out when they know something in English. The children have also been prepared for summer with a summer activities vocabulary book titled, "Word Bird's Summer Words" by Jane Moncure.

**Himawari:** The Himawari class has had a busy, exciting, and challenging past two months. We have been hard at work learning about the alphabet. This began at the beginning of May with emphasis on the alphabet song(my ABCs). The children got to use their letter knowledge success when we created Mother's Day crafts using out letter writing skills and we have since all been successful writing our own names in English.

The children have also been participating in a few other activities. We have been learning about the Calendar and how to pronounce the date, while incorporating poems whose theme is the current month. The children have also been prepared for summer with a summer activities vocabulary book titled, "Word Bird's Summer Words" by Jane Moncure.

### 年少さくら組

さくら組では毎回、Hello SongとName Songで英語を元気に始めます。Name Songでは、My name is.....という文にして名前を各自言えるように歌いながら楽しみました。初回に「Mural」を作ったので、毎回子供たちの目に触れるところに置き、自分の顔も見えています。また、Red・Blue・Yellowを色カードを見ながら英語で練習しました。英語を話したり、歌う事で自信もついてきたようで、積極的に参加する姿が見られます。1学期最後には動物 Duck・Cow・Pigのお面をかぶり、3つのチームに分かれてゲームも楽しみました。

### 年中すみれ組

5.6月の英語遊びでは「Thinking Cap」を作る事から初めて、最後はディラン先生扮する魔術師に一人一人スティックで「ピン！」と魔法をかけられているいろいろな事を考えられるようになるセレモニーを行いました。「Thinking Cap」を作る段階では英語の文字をはさみで切り取って貼っていく事により英語を目でとらえていく事にもつながっていったようです。「Word Bird's Summer Words」という絵本を観ながら毎回単語を声に出していった事は、英単語に興味を持ち、覚える良いチャンスになったと思います。

また、「I can do it」のゲーム(duck, duck, gooseと同じルールです。)も楽しみました。「Five little Monkey's jumping on the Bed」の絵本ではタイトルの部分を毎回先生と一緒に繰り返し言うことで英語に親しんだ子供たちです。

### 年長ひまわり組

「Hello Song」の後は毎回カレンダーの確認。「Today is Tuesday.Today is Tuesday, May. Today is Tuesday,May, 23rd.」という具合に1つずつ単語を増やしながら曜日、月日を英語で言います。回を重ねるにつれ、子供たちの声は大きく、そしてテンポがよく言えるようになっていきました。また、詩集「Chicken Soup with Rice」シリーズも3作目。子供たちの手拍子に合わせてディラン先生が読むのを聞きながら、詞のリズムを体で感じ取れるようになってきました。「Word Bird's Summer Words」も絵本を見ながら毎回2語ずつ新しい単語を習い「Summer Words House」に加えていきました。だんだん単語が増え「Summer Words House」も2つになりました。先日23日は1学期最後の英語のクラス。絵本は最終ページまで進んで完了となり、「Summer Words」の中にある「lemonade」と「watermelon」でミニパーティーをしました。

