With December, the friends entered the wonderful world of Storytelling. The friends began by learning that one form of Storytelling is through books. They were introduced to what an Author, the person who writes the story, and the Illustrator, the person who draws the pictures, are in stories. We began by reading the original version of Goldilocks as well as comparing and contrasting it with “Goldilocks and The Three Bears”. One of the first comparisons were the Characters, the people or animals in a story. Throughout the unit, the friends enjoyed identifying the characters in a story, as we brought storytelling to life through puppet shows and dramatic theater performances by the teachers. While introducing the dramatic art of storytelling, the friends were able to explore what it means to be a good Audience member, a person observing a show. As the friends became comfortable with the stories, they took part in putting on performances of Goldilocks for the friends during morning play.
As we ventured further into the art of storytelling, we revisited a favorite story from our building unit, “The Three Little Pigs”. With this familiar tale, the friends were able to quickly identify the characters in the story, allowing us to begin exploring the **Setting**, where the story takes place. The friends helped create the setting for the story, by gluing straw, sticks, and bricks onto house structures.

Masaki adds straw to create the scenery for *The Three Little Pigs*.

Will, Ezra, Wally, Betty Lou, Ada, and Chloe add details to a cardboard house.

We finished our unit with the story “The Three Billy Goats Gruff”. Taking the concepts we had learned from the previous stories, the friends were able to identify the characters and the setting of the story. Building upon the main parts of the story, the friends began to identify the **Plot**, the actions and events that take place. With piecing together the three main parts of a story: Character, Setting, and Plot, the friends let their imaginations take flight and showed through play (puppet shows, building, loose parts, and drawing) the art of Storytelling.

Billy Goat, Medha, asks Troll, Nolan, if she can cross the bridge.

Betty Lou and Ezra act out the story, *The Three Little Pigs*. 
LEARNING THROUGH PLAY

Maisie finger paints to create the body of the Three Bears.

Andrew creates a scene at the loose parts table.

David adds details to Papa Bear.

Medha and Noah tell the story of Goldilocks on the felt board.

Nolan, Chloe, and Madelyn act as the three bears in the dramatic play center.

Kiley plays the role of Goldilocks.
Jacob and Medha work on their paper mache bowls, inspired by the three bears’ love for porridge.

Adele, Mrs. Loomis and Melodie make porridge in the dramatic play kitchen.

Mateen explores color in the Make Shop.

Nevin graphs his favorite character.

Cole adds to his paper mache bowl.

Dylan creates a shadow with his body.
As much as the friends enjoyed Storytelling this month, the teachers did too! We hope that you enjoy your holiday break, and that you may take part in storytelling together!

A special thanks to Cole’s Mom, Samantha Creighan, for sharing a special presentation on Digital Storytelling. The friends enjoyed watching the story of “The Three Little Pigs”, that was created by Samantha, on the projector screen.

Reminders:
* Winter Break- December 21st-January 6th. See you Monday, January 7th!
* Speech and Hearing Week January 15th-18th

Ms. O’Neill    Mrs. Loomis    Mrs. Armbruster    Mr. Salinetro