

UIC CHILDREN'S CENTER

NOVEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

WELCOME!

Welcome families to our November newsletter. This month, I have included information about Read for the Record on Nov. 7th and a highlight of the book, "Thank You, Omu." Also included is an overview from each classroom, an at-home math activity and a November book list. Have a great month!

- Samantha

Important Reminders:

- **BR & GR Parent Teacher conferences have begun (please sign up and see your child's teacher for more info)**

November Birthdays:

- **11/5- Emma 11/10- Jose**
- **11/17- Deepika**
- **11/19- Teacher Brittany**
- **11/28- Abhimanyu 11/24- Camila**

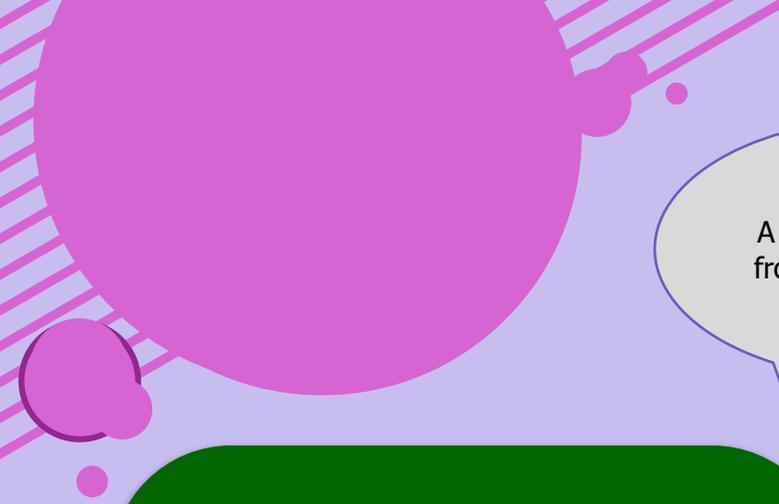
Events:

- **11/7- Read for the Record (student volunteers will read to the children)**
- **Thanksgiving- Center closed 28th & 29th**

The UIC Children's Center website has been updated. Please check it out at <https://childrenscenter.uic.edu/>



"The most wasted of all days is one without laughter"- E.E. Cummings



A look at this month
from each classroom

From the Green Room

In the Green Room, we have wrapped up our color study by creating self-portraits. By creating self portraits, the children started to discuss their families and the different things their families like to do, such as traditions and routines. To explore the family concept, we will be going into our new study on community. Through this study, we intend to discuss what a community is and the people who work and live in our community. This month, we will also focus on our center community by inviting the Orange and Blue room to our class to share a dish made by the Green room friends.

From the Blue Room

In the Blue Room, we will begin a construction exploration. We will introduce a KWL chart to identify some things that the children may already know about construction. To add to our exploration of construction, the children will have the opportunity to learn about safety procedures and a variety of tools needed to complete work. Some tools we will discuss will be a hammer, wrench and a screwdriver. The timing of our exploration will fit perfect with the construction that we will have done to our building. This will give the children the opportunity to see a work-site zone.

From the Orange Room

We will begin transforming our dramatic play area into a campsite. Last week, the children made a list of materials needed for camping. The children will have the opportunity to explore a different environment. We will also have a chance to learn and hear from classroom friends who have been camping in the past. The children will be able to sing songs and explore books that are related as they learn about the skills and tools needed for the great outdoors. Later in the month, the children will begin to explore books and activities related to being thankful and showing thanks to one another. This will be done through ongoing turn-taking, showing good sportsmanship and including one another in group activities and games.

Melody

What it is: The movement from one note to another is the melody of the song, or in other words, the tune. Consider the familiar song “Old MacDonald Had a Farm,” focusing on the repetitive pattern “E-I-E-I-O.” You may notice that the first E and I are repeated on a higher note, the next E and I are repeated on a lower note, and the O is sung on an even a lower note. This is the song’s melody.

How it relates to mathematics: Children can use melodies to recognize *patterns*, such as how notes are repeated within a song.

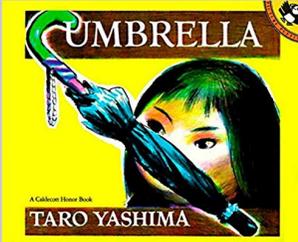
Activities to try: Offer instruments like a xylophone (or piano, if you have one in your home), shaker, drum, or even a pot and a wooden spoon to play a song. Ask your child to play her instrument at a specific note of a simple song (such as on “star” of “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star”) as you play the rest.



Bonny, J.W., & S.F. Lourenco. 2013. “The Approximate Number System and Its Relation to Early Math Achievement: Evidence From the Preschool Years.” *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology* 114 (3): 375–88.

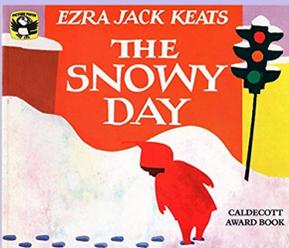
November Book List: This month's book list includes books that highlight topics about the fall season, the first snowy day and rain; a variety for the changes in season and weather.

Umbrella- Taro Yashima



The anticipation, impatience, and joy of a little girl who waits for a rainy day to use her birthday umbrella are sensitively portrayed in a beautiful picture book. *Umbrella* by Taro Yashima is a children's picture book that was named the 1959 Caldecott Honor Book. It was originally published in 1958 then later reprinted in August 1977 by Puffin Books.

The Snowy Day- Ezra Jack Keats



No book has captured the magic and sense of possibility of the first snowfall better than *The Snowy Day*. Universal in its appeal, the story has become a favorite of millions, as it reveals a child's wonder at a new world, and the hope of capturing and keeping that wonder forever.

The adventures of a little boy in the city on a very snowy day.

Tomie dePaola- Strega Nona's Harvest



Tomie dePaola's beloved *Strega Nona* is back in a colorful picture book, perfect for fall and the changing seasons. With beautiful illustrations reminiscent of the artwork that won Tomie dePaola the Caldecott Honor for the original *Strega Nona*, this celebration of harvest and gardening will make the perfect addition to any *Strega Nona* collection.

Read for the Record

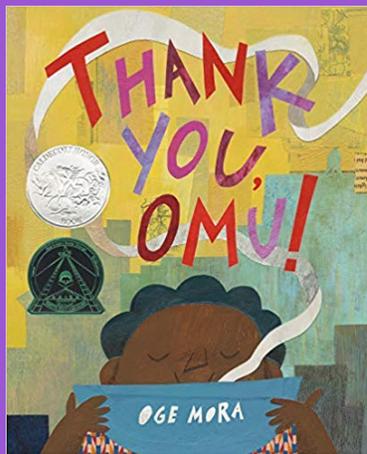
This month, the UIC Children's Center will participate in Read for the Record on Thursday, November 7th.

Read for the Record celebrates the power of reading and helps children to build early literacy and language skills.

Reading along with young children ignites their imaginations, helps them build a greater understanding of the world, and cultivates a lifelong love of reading.

Children with strong literacy and language skills are more likely to succeed in kindergarten, and a love for reading can foster a love of learning that will benefit children for years to come.

On November 7th, each classroom will welcome student volunteers from campus fraternities and sororities into their classrooms to read the story "Thank You, Omu."



A 2019 Caldecott Honor Book

Winner of the Coretta Scott King/ John Steptoe New Talent Illustrator Award

Everyone in the neighborhood dreams of a taste of Omu's delicious stew! One by one, they follow their noses toward the scrumptious scent. And one by one, Omu offers a portion of her meal. Soon the pot is empty. Has she been so generous that she has nothing left for herself? With colorful cut-paper designs as luscious as Omu's stew, Oge Mora brings a heartwarming story of sharing and community to life.

