

South Parkersburg Baptist Church Preschool
(Wood County, WV)
The Snake Project
2010-2011

The topic of snakes emerged in our classroom when two boys were making snakes out of small tube like magnets. They showed everyone their “Snakes” and then several of the children wanted to make one. As they were making snakes and talking, I realized that they seemed interested in the topic.

I got out many books about snakes and picture cards with information on them. The children and I read books and the information cards then we talked about what they had learned. They started to explore the different areas in the class room to see what they could do related to snakes, such as: Using blocks and the block container to create a snake “cave” den. In addition, painting pictures of snakes. Through conversations at circle time, the children came up with some questions to focus on throughout their investigation.

In the quest to find answers to their questions, we went to the internet, and read books out of the library. The children realized that not all snakes are poison and that snakes are good because they eat mice and rats.

Jonavieve Lockhart & Carla McCartney, Pre-K Educators

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Pictorial Journal



Kaden and Doniven made snakes out of tube shaped magnets and started asking questions about where they lived and why. He said his papa showed him a snake and it was under a log. This prompted other children to ask questions too.



While the children are looking at a book and x-rays of snakes in the science center they are trying to think of questions they want to ask about snakes.



I asked the children what they wanted to learn about snakes and got a variety of questions for us to find. A few of the questions were: Why do snakes eat mice? Why do snakes have a forked tongue? Why do they slither? Are all snakes' poisonous? Do snakes swim?





Here the kids are doing small group research to try to answer some of the children's questions about snakes. We used some picture cards with information on the back.



Having books about snakes in the library center to look at and read helps to spark interest and questions. But it also can help the children find answers to their questions.



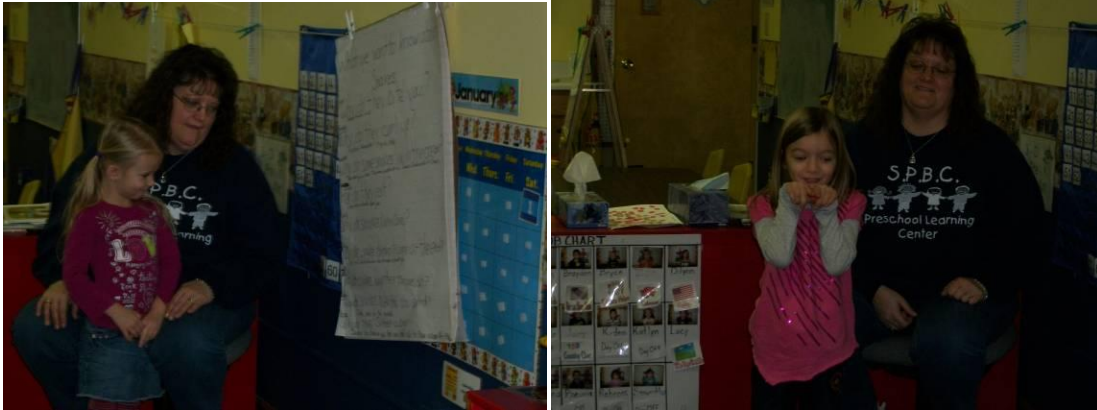


Playing with wooden snakes in the block center is a great way to experiment the way snakes act in their environment



Some of the children went to the computers to try to find the answer the questions they had asked earlier in circle time, while the others explored the other centers.





A few days later we went over all the answers to the children's questions they wanted to know. They were all very interested in the answers and all listened attentively. The project took approximately 7 days before the children lost interested.



Jonavieve Lockhart Pre-K Educator