



Chippy's Chatter

Wow, where did the first part of the school year go? 2010 will be here before we know it! We all want to wish you a safe, healthy and fun holiday season! See you "next year!"

December 2009

November And December Themes

The month of November began leaning more about our "fowl" friends, the **turkey!** Ask your child what a male, female and baby turkey is called. (Jake, Hen, pullet)

This was followed by the unit on **migration.** The children learned why animals need to migrate and more about the ones that do. Ask your child to tell you some Michigan animals that migrate.

Next came a class favorite—**mammals!** Fox (gray and red), coyote, polar bear and deer skins were all borrowed from the Nature Center. The preschool has a

black bear skin and replica of a bear skull, and tracks.

These items gave the children opportunities for "hands-on" learning about mammals.

The the polar bear was a hit, probably because it is so huge!

The month ended by learning how **animals prepare for winter.**

December continued with how different **animals prepare for winter** such as: **groundhog,**

Chipmunk, squirrels, pond animals, weasels and mice.

We ended the month be-



fore winter break by leaning more about winter and what trees do in the winter.

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Mark Your Calendars!

- ◆ Briefly highlight your point of interest here.
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Weather Related School Closings

The time of year has come to remind families about school closings.

WWMT is contacted and closings will scroll on the bottom of the screen. If school is closed, it is closed for THE WHOLE DAY.

An e-mail will also be

sent as a back up.

If the preschool is closed for any other reason, you will be contacted by phone and e-mail.

Please do not call the school, as there most likely will not be anyone here.

The policy is as follows: **If Portage and or Kalamazoo public schools are closed, so is Nature's Way.**

If you have further questions, please ask one of the teachers or refer to the school closing section in your parent handbook.

**Explore...
Learn...
Grow...
Nature's Way!**



Drop off/Pick Up

Please remember to be prompt when dropping off and picking up your child.

Time between classes on MWF is very tight and teachers need to prepare for the afternoon class and eat lunch. Children often appear anxious when a parent is late.

Hop-A-Thon

A special THANK YOU for all who participated in the Hop-A-Thon. The children seemed to enjoy hopping and the total raised was \$1,104.66!

Reminders:

- Please send a change of clothes in your child's backpack
- Please send a water bottle with your child daily
- Make sure that all your child's items are clearly marked (backpack, snow pants, coats, etc.)
- If the wind chill and or temperature is below 15 degrees, we will be starting our day inside. To double check, go to www.weather.com
- Include a plastic bag in your

child's backpack to put wet outside clothing in

NEEDS

- Plastic grocery bags
- Paper plates and napkins

Enjoy the snow!



2010-2011 Enrollment

Enrollment forms for next fall will be sent out soon, with a return date by January 11th. After this date, it will be opened up to the general public. Please make sure you return the form with payment to NATURE'S WAY PRE-SCHOOL by January 11th. If it is not returned by then, a spot for your child cannot be guaranteed. If you know of someone who are interested and needs an enrollment form, please notify Mrs. Mohill.

January 2010

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1
4 School Resumes Winter Birds	5 School Resumes Winter Birds	6 Winter Weather	7 Winter Weather	8 Snow
11 Tracks	12 Tracks	13 Reptile Intro	14 Reptile Intro	15 Turtles
18 No School Teacher In-Service	19 Turtles	20 Snakes	21 Snakes	22 Alligator and Crocodiles
25 Rainforest Layers	26 Rainforest Layers & Animals	27 Rainforest Animals	28 Rainforest Products	29 Rainforest Products