

Dear families,

This week we will begin our five week investigation of **boxes**. Boxes are full of possibilities! Children are curious about the different types of boxes, how boxes are made, how people use boxes, and how people move very large boxes. We think this study of boxes will be engaging and fun!

We need your help to get our study going. We'd love any help you can provide in gathering boxes to investigate. We'll need many different types of boxes—boxes of all shapes, sizes, and materials. If you have books or pictures related to boxes, we'd love to borrow those, too. Below is a list of suggested items, but feel free to send other items that you think may add to our exploration. *Please label items with your name if you would like us to return them to you at the end of our study.* Also, please let us know if someone in your family works with boxes (e.g., woodworker, carpenter, origami artist, factory worker, delivery person) and would like to share his or her expertise with the class. We would love to arrange a time for you to come share your knowledge with us, send in a video, or arrange for a video chat interview!

Objects: food boxes, wooden boxes, plastic boxes, polystyrene boxes, shoeboxes, music boxes, round boxes, boxes with different types of closures, tissue boxes, file boxes, bento boxes, lunch boxes, mailboxes, ice chests, flower boxes, toolboxes, tackle boxes, moving boxes, hatboxes, nesting boxes, pet carrier, appliance boxes
Pictures and videos: truck toolbox, boxes on conveyor belts, container boxes being loaded onto trains or trucks

As we study boxes, we will learn concepts and skills related to literacy, math (especially geometry), science, social studies, the arts, and technology. We'll also develop thinking skills as we observe, investigate, ask questions, solve problems, make predictions, and test our ideas.

What You Can Do at Home: Explore a variety of boxes with your child and talk about each box's characteristics. How big is it? What is it made of? Are there pictures or words on it? What shape does it have? How many sides does it have? Provide empty boxes of different sizes and help your child transform them into different things. Your child's imagination will lead the way! Invent games to play with boxes. Stack them. Take them apart and rebuild them. While you are out in the community with your child, point out the different boxes you see. Count them and describe them. Look for the biggest box and the smallest box. Hunt for the most interesting box you've ever seen!

At the end of our study, we will celebrate our learning! Thank you for help and support!



NEWSLETTER

Week 13 10/30-11/03

CLASSROOM NEWS

Focus Question: Exploring the Topic: What do we know about boxes? What do we want to find out?

Books: Christina Katerina & the Box and Not a Box

Alphabet Knowledge: Alphabet Order: Letters Ww-Zz

Heggerty (Phonemic Awareness): Week 12

Great 8/Capturing Kids Hearts: "Self-management" (Taking steps towards goals through positive choices.)

Small Group: Observational drawings of boxes, sorting and classifying, comparison using non-standard measurement, categorizing, student names (identifying, writing)

Whole Group Discussion and Shared Writing: What do you notice about boxes? What makes a box? Where do we see boxes at school? What do we know about boxes? What do we want to find out about boxes?

Centers: Create and follow a plan to build with boxes, engage in dramatic play with boxes found in the home (please send in donations!), decorating boxes, books about boxes, exploring a box collection, motor lab, technology time

Thank you!

Thank you to all of our families who donated pumpkins for our pumpkin exploration. The students really enjoyed holding, moving, touching, weighing, and comparing pumpkins. We experimented to see if pumpkins float or sink. We cut open a pumpkin and smelled (ew) and touched the insides. We even made pumpkin art! Thank you!

EVENTS

OCTOBER

31 This is not a dress up day or a class party day!

NOVEMBER

3 Outdoor Classroom Ribbon Cutting 8:00 AM

7 VRES Spirit Night Event Texas Roadhouse 3-9 PM

10 Veteran's Day Program 8:30 AM

11 Kendra Scott VRES Spirit Event 12-2 PM @ La Cantera

17 All Pro Dads Meeting 7AM

20-24 Thanksgiving Break (No School)

30 VRES Winter Choir Concert 6:00 PM

TO-DO

BOXES: Go on a scavenger hunt in your home with your child to find boxes to donate. We would love to have empty, clean food boxes to put in our dramatic play area. Boxes of all shapes, colors, purposes, and sizes are appreciated!



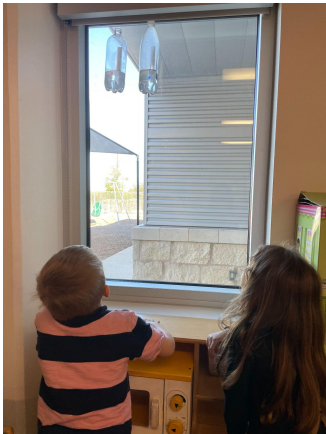
SCHOLASTIC Book Clubs



Scholastic Book Club purchases should be made **online** at: <https://clubs.scholastic.com/home> using our **Class Code: LRC3Z** Please let me know if you have any questions!

ATTENDANCE

Last week we were close to a perfect week of attendance! We only need four more perfect attendance days to reach our next reward! Let's make it happen this week!



Enrichment Opportunity:

Each week we will allow a small group of students (2-4) to join Mrs. Pyle's kindergarten class across the hall for 10-15 minutes of "buddy" time during her learning centers (our small group work rotations). Participation is dependent on both age (4-5) and behavior, as students will be working on kindergarten skills and must be able to participate appropriately. We are excited about this collaboration with Mrs. Pyle's kindergarten class!

DONATIONS

Updated Amazon wishlist:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/12HJHFX0ESZ85?ref=wl_share

SPECIAL SHOUT OUTS

Yes, Yes Award: Miranda

Miranda has become a leader in responding to our class call-back for attention!

Thank you, Miranda!

Scientist Award: Erik

Erik demonstrated excellent scientific observation skills during our water condensation experiment by drawing his observations.

Wow, Erik!

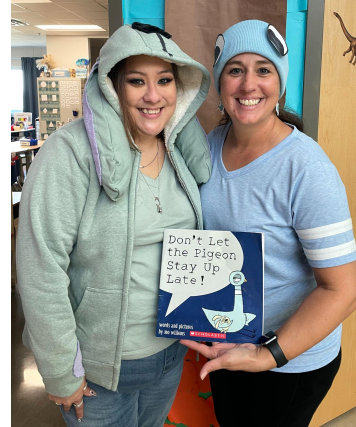
Awards will be explained and awarded in the upcoming week.

GOOD THINGS

Our students did a great job participating in the **storybook character parade!** I hope you were able to come watch!



I wrote a **grant for multicultural materials** for a classroom that was fulfilled by the VRES PTO! We have some new posters, puzzles, pretend play food and dolls, books, block people, and a soft globe (to be delivered soon). Thank you to VRES PTO for approving our grant!



Thank you for letting your children participate in our **dress up days for red ribbon week!** On Monday we had a pajama parade.



Our students are still sending in **All About Me posters** and we love hearing them present to the class!



Thank you for doing such a great job with our **Class Pet projects!** Soon students will get a chance to take the second class pet home!

