

SMALL CLOUD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PRESENTS . . .

SMALL CLOUD CHRONICLES

"With God all things are possible." Mark 10:27

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The first quarter of the 2012-2013 school year has come and gone. The students are doing well in their academic work and have enjoyed a couple of educational field trips as well.

Our field trip to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center, located in Sacramento, took place on October 16. Upon our arrival, all the students took their lunch boxes out to the picnic area and thoroughly enjoyed their yummy lunches under the trees. We were joined by homeschooler Joanna Schendel, her younger brother, Nathan, and their mom, Jeannette.

THE JOY OF PLAYING PRETEND!

One of the areas the students especially enjoyed at the museum was the Healthy Bones Diner. This diner featured aprons and play foods, booths at which meals could be served (see Nathan serving his mom in picture 1), a child-sized counter with little chairs (see Stephen serving his two little brothers in picture 2), and a car positioned at a drive-through window (see Stephen taking an order from Jeremiah in picture 3). There were also sample meals on display, with signs noting their fat, sugar, and sodium contents. The most unhealthy meal featured was a hamburger and fries; the item with the highest sugar content was a soda. It was difficult to move the students out of this area and on to the next exhibit.

However, the students found another area also very appealing. It featured a doctor's office; and the students enjoyed donning a lab coat and examining the x-rays, which showed a variety of broken bones.

Next came a dentist's office, complete with a dental chair and a giant toothbrush to brush a large set of teeth.

There were live animals on display at the center as well, including a porcupine, a very large Flemish Giant rabbit, a Lion-Headed rabbit, a bull frog (the second largest of its type in the world), a tarantula, fifteen



Jeremiah, Nathan, and Jonathan

turtles, and a walking stick (an insect that looks just like a twig).

Just before exiting the museum, the children enjoyed watching a penny roll 'round and 'round and 'round a large container before disappearing into a hole at the bottom (see picture 4). What a great way for an organization to make a little extra money!

THE ELK GROVE LIBRARY

A trip to the local Elk Grove library was also part of the first quarter's learning experiences, and Jeannette, Joanna, and Nathan Schendel again accompanied us. The library is a two-story building right on the corner of the main intersection in town. Here a very animated librarian read the book entitled *The Wide-Mouthed Frog* by Keith Faulkner. The younger students were quite fascinated! Stephen noted that there are lots of *Curious George* books at the library. Megan commented that it takes a lot of work to keep the books in order, but that if they are not in order, it's hard for the librarians and other people to find what they are looking for. David stated that he didn't even know there is a two-story library in Elk Grove. Mrs. Nelson and Jeannette Schendel checked out some books for their children.

BACK AT SCHOOL

And now a peek into the school classroom. Below you will see Megan Petrovich doing an experiment, with her brother David looking on. The purpose of this experiment was to teach the student about forming a hypothesis. First Mrs. Nelson placed water in a cup; it came up just below the brim. Then Megan made a hypothesis as to how many pennies it would take to cause the water to overflow the cup. The picture on the right shows her adding pennies. Each time she had to add more pennies to her hypothesis. What was really interesting was that the water rose above the cup (see the picture on the left) before the final penny caused the water to actually overflow. Would you believe it took 77 pennies to achieve the desired result! ■



The Pilgrims came on a
Huge ship to
America.
Not only were there wild animals there, but
Also Indians.
Keen were the Indians,
So careful and quiet.
Going to meet the Pilgrims went the Indians.
In a flash the pilgrims had their guns.
Venturing closer came Squanto. "We come in peace," said Squanto.
In the next two years the Pilgrims had enough food to feed everybody.
Now the pilgrims desired to give thanks to
God for all the things He had done for them.



- by David Petrovich, age 12

THANKSGIVING CREATIVITY



Stretching the gluten for the Thanksgiving
 roast—a family favorite for many years
 (L to R: Stephen, Jeannette, Joanna,
 Nathan, and Mrs. Nelson)

The leaves are falling.
Have I done my jobs?
A leaf fell on my head.
No, I have not done my jobs.
Kittens bat the yarn around my dad's chair.
Soon
Grandpa and Grandma will come.
Instead of turkey for Thanksgiving, we have gluten.
Vases full of flowers are on the table.
Inside we all are hungry.
Nicely we sit and give thanks.
God gave us all this good stuff.

- by Stephen Nelson, age 7