

Discussion of learning achievements for M BH

April 2013-April 2014

Photos have been removed for privacy

English:

Everyday M is reading and writing, speaking and listening. Her skills in all these areas are developing soundly. Below are some of the specific activities M has engaged in:

- Writing birthday cards, short letters and checklists on her own
- April 2013, taught a friend to play checkers
- April 2013, making formal toasts at dinner.
- Read Roald Dahl's BFG numerous times throughout the year, discussing plot, characters and games with language that Dahl brings out through the main character.
- Listening to story CDs including Mermaids Shoes, Story Tree and Reaching for the Moon by Jenni Cargill-Smith.
- Viewed a series of Disney princess films- "Brave", "Tangled", "Beauty and the Beast", "Ariel", "Princess and the Frog", "Cinderella" and discussed main characters, plot, characteristics of hero/villain.
- Read a variety of princess stories from various backgrounds to compare with the Disney films.
- 2.09.2014 role plays and improvisations with sister and cousin.
- 5.6.13 reading days of the week and titles of story books.
- 14.9.13 Read Are You My Mother out loud, solo.
- 20.09.13 created her own omelette recipe and wrote it up using text, symbols and images
- Oct 2013 Nanowrimo novel writing workshop. Lots of discussion about character development.
- Oct 2013 reading Roald Dahl's "George's Marvellous Medicine"
- Oct 2013 activity book- Scholastic Learning Express Reading Skills K2
- 28th Oct 2013 reading Norman Lindsay's Magic Pudding
- 29th Oct 2013 read and discussed Jeanie Baker's Where the Forest Meets the Sea and Window
- 3rd Nov 2013 discuss Kylie Dunstan's The Red Bridge- relocating to a new country/culture.
- 12th Nov 2013 discussion of main character, side/support characters and what do they do?
- 13th Nov 2013 read Are We There Yet? Alison Lester
- 17th Nov 2013 Climate Change rally- discussion of human uses of environment, listening to people speak
- 18th Nov 2013 reading Roald Dahl's Magic Finger
- 23rd Nov 2013 making crane from playschool with paper roll, rope and tape. Listened and remembered how to recreate.
- 26th Nov 2013 Read Are You my Mother out loud as a bedtime story.
- 24th Jan 2014 Dinosaur Zoo puppet show at The Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre
- Feb 2014 reading/writing with site cards from Make A Word game.
- Feb 2014 lego making, storytelling and character development.
- Feb 2014 read Roald Dahl's Matilda.
- 19th Feb 2013 watched Matilda movie and compared to book.
- 22nd Feb 2013 Make a Word blocks over breakfast.
- 10th March 2013 M created her own birthday party invites and wrote them out.
- 15th March 2014 created social stories about feeling disappointed.
- 25th March 2014 read and discuss So That's Where I Came From book about reproduction.

- 26th March 2014 baking chickpea chocolate cakes and brownies, listening/measuring/following instructions
- 3rd April 2014 borrowed and read “readers” from library. Read one out loud quite confidently.

Mathematics:

M enjoys playing with numbers, telling the time, measuring ingredients and exploring various math concepts. During the past year she has:

- Weighed and measured a variety of items during fruit and vege sorting at a co-op and written number codes on bags.
- Worn a watch and demonstrated the ability to tell o’clock and half-past times. She can read a digital clock with ease.
- Completed a variety of random, verbal additions, subtractions and divisions.
- Demonstrated her ability to count by 2s and 10s.
- Displayed an awareness of money and recognises dollars from cents
- Worked through Deluxe edition Maths Basics 2 workbook- August 2013
- Cooked a variety of recipes with assistance and measured the ingredients using metric measuring equipment.
- 2nd Oct 2013 mosaic old crockery. Discussion of water/plaster ratio, safe handling of materials etc
- Oct 2013 organised coins into different denominations
- Oct 2013 market stall at BMHEN market day. Selling tattoos. M took money and gave change to customers.
- Nov 2013 preparing dinner together using metric measuring spoons
- Nov 2013 measured drinks to 100mL portion sizes
- 29th Nov 2013 salt dough decorations using measuring cups, identifying half and whole cups
- Jan 2014 Cuisenaire rods.... Making patterns/comparing sizes
- Feb 2014 Making pancakes, measuring ingredients.
- Feb 2014 making felt sushi badges, measuring felt pieces with ruler and cutting out.
- 24th Feb 2014 Taronga Zoo- nocturnal animals, map reading, bird show, seal show, telling the time.
- March 2014 **Mathseed** fortnight long trial- (M started at final level)
- March 2014 Assisted her younger sister in counting to 200.
- 18th March 2014 watched 1961 *Mathematica* animations.
- 26th March 2014 baking chickpea chocolate cakes and brownies, listening/measuring/following instructions
- 27th March 2014 building and balancing jenga blocks.
- 28th March 2014 decided to make recipe book, divided page up into 8 equal portions, using ruler.

Science and Technology:

One of M’s learning goals for the past year was to learn about being a scientist. Below are some of the activities she completed:

- April 2013: Science thru Art workshops- anatomy, astronomy and cell structures.
- 24th April 2013, built a 3-d DNA model- lead to discussion on skin colour, hair colour, eye colour and globalisation
- Cooking pancakes for breakfast- discussing safety near gas flames.
- 6th May “What does organic mean?” discussion about organic- man-made/chemical free.
- May 2013 making a variety of structures for her guinea pigs to hide in.

- Discussion of warm blooded/cold blooded animals.
- 11th May 2013 David Attenborough "Africa" dvd series. Viewed and discussed animal behaviours, environments/habitats.
- June 2013 tie dying t-shirts.
- June 2013 Felting workshop
- July 2013- demonstrate volcano experiments to friends
- July 2013- road trip to Orange- observe windpower turbines and discuss power options
- July 2013- finger knitting.
- 21.08.13- kite flying with friends... troubleshooting and experimenting
- September 2013 created rope/pulley system to aid herself in climbing trees
- 20.09.13 created her own omelette recipe and wrote it up using text, symbols and images. Cooked, served and ate omelette all without assistance.
- 26th Sept beginning work on no-dig garden.
- 2nd Oct 2013 mosaic old crockery. Discussion of water/plaster ratio, safe handling of materials etc
- 6th Oct 2013 cicadas- life cycles, predators.
- Oct 2013 bushfires in Blue Mountains- discussion of fire safety.
- Oct 2013 exploring solid/liquid/gas- boiling ice cubes
- 8.11.13 trip to Sydney on the train, exploring St Mary's Cathedral and Hyde Park.
- 13th Nov 2013 read *Are We There Yet?* Alison Lester discussion of road trips and Australian landmarks.
- 23rd Nov 2013 making crane from playschool with paper roll, rope and tape.
- 29th Nov 2013 salt dough decorations using measuring cups, identifying half and whole cups
- 6th Dec 2013 Making lots of paper compasses and discussing direction
- December 2013 experimenting with building structures
- 24th Jan 2014 Dinosaur Zoo puppet show at The Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre
- Feb 2014 Making pancakes, measuring ingredients, reciting ingredients.
- Term 1 2014- Homeschool Science Club learning about bubbles, vibration, colour, light, liquid nitrogen, electric circuits, fossils, rocks, density.
- Feb 2014 making felt sushi badges, measuring felt pieces with ruler and cutting out.
- 24th Feb 2014 Taronga Zoo- nocturnal animals, map reading, bird show, seal show, telling the time.
- March 2014 origami water bombs
- 7th-9th March 2014 camping in Dubbo and Western Plains Zoo trip.
- 14th March 2014 Made a broom out of branches and leaves. Pretended to be a witch.
- 26th March 2014 baking chickpea chocolate cakes and brownies, listening/measuring/following instructions.
- 27th March attempts to replicate bubble hoop from science club. Lots of experimentation with materials.
- April 2014 pen holders created from M's own design with tape and paper
- April 2014 using origami water bomb design, M designed and built paper model hot air balloons.

HSIE:

M is constantly assessing rules, roles and responsibilities for herself and others as she moves about her world. Here are some specific things she has been involved in:

- 6th April 2013 road trip to Newcastle- maps, beach environment, visiting extended family
- 11th May 2013 David Attenborough "Africa" dvd series. Viewed and discussed animal behaviours, environments/habitats.
- Examining maps of the world regularly, often during meal times at home.
- 6th May "What does organic mean?" discussion about organic- man-made/chemical free.

- May 2013 making a variety of structures for her guinea pigs to hide in.
- 21.6.13 extended family from the UK visit. Discussion of family and global location
- July 2013 Japanese workshops- language, culture, fashion.
- 30.07.13- singing "Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes" in Japanese.
- Term 3 and 4 2013, yoga- what is God, where is God? Exploring religions from around the world
- Oct 2013 discussion of same sex marriage... how do 2 Dads feed their baby?! Babies need breastmilk.
- Oct 2013 Train trip to city- discussion of quiet carriages.
- Oct 2013 On arriving in city- discussion of homelessness/housing.
- Oct 2013 bushfires in Blue Mountains- discussion of fire safety.
- 23rd Oct 2013 pack up to leave mountains for the day. Discussion of personal safety, what is special, pet care.
- 28th Oct 2013 listening to The Indigo Girl singing about Gallileo and discuss how people feel uncomfortable with new information.
- 29th Oct 2013 read and discussed Jeanie Baker's Where the Forest Meets the Sea and Window
- 1st Nov 2013 witness some Aboriginal people with protest banners and flags. Discuss land rights and rallies.
- 3rd Nov 2013 discuss Kylie Dunstan's The Red Bridge- relocating to a new country/culture.
- November 2013 Art and the Environment workshop series- 7 weeks, collaborating, natural and built environments.
- 8.11.13 trip to Sydney on the train, exploring St Mary's Cathedral and Hyde Park.
- Drumming with a group of friends, improvising and sharing the lead.
- 13th Nov 2013 read Are We There Yet? Alison Lester discussion of road trips and Australian landmarks
- 17th November Climate Change rally- discussion of human uses of environment.
- Nov 2013 watched My Neighbour Totoro- Japanese culture, mythology, fantasy.
- 3rd Dec 2013 read lots of books about Christmas. Discuss some Christian beliefs.
- 6th Dec 2013 discuss fire safety with candles.
- 6th Dec 2013 threading needles and cutting fabric
- 29th Jan 2014 Not Back to School Picnic re-connecting with homeschooling friends.
- Feb 2014 making felt sushi badges, measuring felt pieces with ruler and cutting out.
- 21st Feb 2014 swim at Jelly Bean pool- natural waterhole
- 23rd Feb 2014 candle lit vigil for Manus Island. Discussion of human rights.
- 24th Feb 2014 Taronga Zoo- nocturnal animals, map reading, bird show, seal show, telling the time.
- 7th-9th March 2014 camping in Dubbo and Western Plains Zoo trip.
- 15th March 2014 read about the History of Costume. (More from a European stance than global).
- 20th March 2014 Close the Gap Day- discussion about Aboriginal health and creation of artworks.
- 29th March 2014 attended a wedding.

Creative Arts:

Our home is overflowing with artworks most of the time. M is frequently drawing, painting, singing and listening to music.... Some of the creative arts activities M has participated in are:

- 18th April 2013 performing songs for an adult friend.
- 20th April 2013 watched Cirque de la Symphonie at Sydney Opera House.
- April 2013: Science thru Art workshops- anatomy, astronomy and cell structures.
- 30th April 2013 joined Raindrops children's choir- 10 weeks
- Term 2 2013 weekly art workshops with Hawkesbury Homeschoolers
- Term 3 and 4 2013, Contemporary Dance lessons every Tuesday- performed on stage 13th Dec

- 21st September 2013 watched *In Lakesh* performance night- bands and dancers
- Term 1 2013 Contemporary Dance lessons every Tuesday
- Sept 2013 introduction to pop-up card making. M made screaming girl and large frog.
- 2nd Oct 2013 mosaic old crockery. Discussion of water/plaster ratio, safe handling of materials etc
- Oct 2013 visit AGNSW
- 28th Oct 2013 listening to The Indigo Girls sing about Gallileo and discuss how people feel uncomfortable with new information.
- November 2013 Art and the Environment workshop series- 7 weeks, drawing, print making, sculpture, painting, clay.
- Drumming with a group of friends, improvising and sharing the lead.
- 8.11.13 trip to Sydney on the train, exploring St Mary's Cathedral and Hyde Park.
- 27th Nov 2013 view TAFE music student concert, discuss instruments, stage set up etc
- 5th Dec 2013 BMHEN end of year exhibition- M exhibited 3 artworks.
- 24th Jan 2014 Dinosaur Zoo puppet show at The Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre
- Feb 2014 making felt sushi badges, measuring felt pieces with ruler and cutting out.
- 15th Feb 2014 paintings- M said "this is about the Aboriginal people fighting. Fighting for their land"
- March 2014- Lewers Gallery visit and workshop
- March/April 2014 clay workshop series
- 14th March 2014 Made a broom out of branches and leaves. Pretended to be a witch.
- 20th March 2014 Close the Gap Day- discussion about Aboriginal health and creation of artworks.

PDHPE:

Our family are frequently discussing healthy food choices, leisure activities and emotions. Some specific things M has done are:

- 2013- swimming lessons. M went from refusing to put her head under water to being able to confidently swim unassisted and put her head under water without wearing a swimming mask.
- Term 1 2013 gymnastics- basic tumbling, balancing, climbing and jumping with assistance.
- Focusing on feelings, what does my body feel like when I am happy/angry?
- Kinesiology/chiro.... Learning about retained neonatal reflexes and health choices.
- Riding a pedal bike without training wheels. Being aware of sharing the path with pedestrians and other cyclists.
- Term 1 2014 gymnastics- tumbling, balancing, climbing and jumping unassisted.
- Term 3 and 4 2013 family yoga.
- Term 1 2014 family yoga
- 21st Feb 2014 swim at Jelly Bean pool- natural waterhole.
- 7th-9th March 2014 camping in Dubbo and Western Plains Zoo trip, bike riding around zoo.
- 15th March 2014 created social stories about feeling disappointed.
- 25th March 2014 read and discuss *So That's Where I Came From* book about reproduction.