

GOING THE DISTANCE



A weekly update for Distance Learners at Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School

From the Distance Learning Coordinator, Lisa Smith-Horn

JANUARY 8, 2020

Important Dates:

Monday, January 18

No School Martin Luther King Day



Our Fine Feather Friends

This week Wintonbury is exploring birds through the Auerfarm Virtual Farm Trip. Miss Kim, our farm teacher, has provided us with many resources for investigating and learning about birds. In addition to some outdoor ideas listed in the upcoming week's lesson plans, here are some more ideas from Auerfarm:

Make a Bird Feeder:

Birds that stay in Connecticut for the winter have to find food under the snow and ice. A great way to make this easier for the cardinals, chickadees, and other birds is to put a bird feeder outside your home. A bird feeder will encourage birds to visit often so you can watch them more closely. You can fill a bird feeder your family already has with bird seed or make your own bird feeder. Home-made bird feeders can be as simple as putting some birdseed out on a plate and placing it outside. A favorite feeder on Auerfarm is made by spreading shortening on a pinecone and then rolling it in birdseed. We've seen all kinds of birds eat from this type of feeder including woodpeckers, sparrows, and even turkeys! Feel free to substitute any nut or seed butter for the shortening and use a cardboard tube if you can't find a pinecone. Add a string or ribbon to hang it outside. An empty milk jug can also be cut and made into a refillable feeder with a grown ups help. What kind of bird feeder will you make?



Excerpt: "Suzie Bliner Was Ahead of the Class" by Barbara Vance at GoodandBeautiful.com

Play Bird [BINGO](#)

Watch Miss Kim's Birds in Winter [VIDEO](#)

Read Aloud [BIRDS](#)

Second Step Home Link

Story Time



Rico

Dakota

This week's story is about Rico and Dakota. They both want to be the doctor. They are arguing with each other.

Ask your child about this story.

What do you see in this photo?

How are Rico and Dakota feeling? (Angry, frustrated, upset.) **What can they do to calm down?** (Put their hands on their tummies and say "Stop." Name their feelings. Take belly breaths.)

What is a fair way Rico and Dakota can play and both have fun? (Both be doctors. Take turns being the doctor.)

Now let's pretend you're Rico and I'm Dakota. Let's ask each other to play in a fair way. (Do you want to take turns being the doctor?)

Your child is learning to choose to have fun with friends rather than to get his or her own way. Children have fun when they play in fair ways.

The Fair Ways to Play are:

Play together,

Trade,

Take Turns

Understanding that having fun and playing fairly are more important than getting your own way helps your child get along better with other children.

Play a game with your child to practice the Fair Ways to Play. For example, set out two simple kitchen items, such as a plastic container and a pot. Use the Fair Ways to Play to play with the objects.