February 2020
Building Blocks
Ms. Larissa and Ms. Rebecca

This month in Building Blocks...
We’re off to fairy tale land to visit with royalty, battle
dragons, and meet witches, giants, and talking
animals! We will be exploring favorite stories like Snow
White, Hansel and Gretel, Rapunzel, The Frog Prince,
and many others!
We are inviting all princes and princesses to a royal Val-
entine’s Ball, complete with music and dancing and
costumes. Our month will end with a pirate day—we’ll
search for buried treasure, dig in the sand, and dress like
pirates. This month promises all things magical!

Our letters this month:
Ac...for adventure
Vv...for Valentine
Qq...for queen
Rr...for ‘Arrr’ (pirate talk)

Mark your calendars:
Wednesday 2/12...Valentine’s Ball
Thursday 2/13...Conferences
Friday 2/14...No School
Monday 2/17...No School
Thursday 2/20...Conferences
Friday 2/28...Pirate Day

Castle Boxes:
For our Valentine’s Ball we are asking that each child prepare a
castle at home to add to our Building Blocks kingdom! Castles
can be made from tissue boxes, cereal/cracker boxes, etc. To
create, cover your box with solid paper, then decorate! Your child
can use crayons, stickers, paint, glue, sparkles, whatever! We just
ask that you leave an opening somewhere to drop in Valentines,
and make sure their name is easy to read.
Please bring castle boxes to school by Monday 2/10.
Have fun creating!

The Valentine’s Day Royal Ball
On Wednesday, Feb. 12, your child is invited to dress up for the ball!
Princess dresses, knight costumes, king and queen crowns, and all forms of
royal attire are encouraged!
During the ball, kids will pass out valentines from home, (12 valentines,
please label only who they are from) enjoy some special activities, and dance!

This is a special day in our classroom that promises lots of fun!
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<th>Sunday</th>
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<td>Letter of the week: Ao</td>
<td>Gingerbread houses with Hansel and Gretel</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Mirror, Mirror on the wall... Drawing pictures of ourselves</td>
<td>Royal Ball: Dress as royally and come ready to dance!</td>
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<td>Letter of the week: An</td>
<td>Building tall towers with Rapunzel</td>
<td>NO SCHOOL</td>
<td>Conferences 8:30-1:30</td>
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<td>Letter of the week: Rr</td>
<td>The Bravest Knight</td>
<td>Dragon scale</td>
<td>Where does your beanstalk go?</td>
<td>Dress like a pirate and help us find treasure!</td>
<td>AAarrggghh!</td>
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January in Building Blocks!

In music this month, we listened to music that was fast and slow, drawing snowflakes to match the tempo. We drew our own snowmen as we heard examples of jazz and classical music related to winter. We also dreamed with the bears as we read 'Sleepy Bears' by Mem Fox.

I'm a Little Snowman
(Sung to the tune of 'I'm a Little Teapot')
I'm a little snowman
Short and fat
Here is my scarf and here is my hat
When the sun comes out I cannot play
I just slowly melt away!
I melt and I melt and I melt away
Until I'm a puddle all brownish-gray!

Hot Cocoa Cookies
You'll need:
* 3/4 cup butter, softened
* 1/2 cup sugar
* 2 eggs
* 1/4 cup milk
* 1 tsp vanilla
* 2 cups flour
* 1 cup instant hot cocoa mix
* 1 tsp baking soda
* Mini marshmallows

To Make:
* Heat oven to 350
* Mix butter and sugar until creamy
* Add eggs, milk, and vanilla and stir until well mixed.
* Add flour, cocoa mix, and baking soda.
* Drop dough onto cookie sheet.
* Bake for 8-9 minutes. Remove from oven and add 3 mini marshmallows to the top of each cookie. Continue to bake for 2 more minutes.

In cooking this month we made oatmeal to go with Goldilocks and the Three Bears, and we baked cookies with hot cocoa and marshmallows on our hot cocoa day!

Books we read:
The Jacket I Wear in the Snow by Shirley Neitzel
The Penguin Who Wanted to Fly by Catherine Vase
The Three Snow Bears by Jan Brett
Sleepy Bears by Mem Fox
Corduroy by Don Freeman
The Biggest Bear by Adam Rex
Snowballs by Lois Ehlert
Don't Wake the Bear by Marjorie Dennis Murray
The Hat by Jan Brett
Ladybug Girl and the Big Snow by Jackie Davis