



February, 2012

Children's interest in Valentine's Day also sparked an interest in writing and delivering mail to each other, reinforcing one of the purposes of writing: to send a message to someone else. Writing the Valentines gave us natural opportunities to sound out and spell words and copy letters, teaching phonemic awareness and beginning reading & writing skills. I wanted children to see how mail is delivered, so we read a non-fiction book about the post office. We set up a stand where they could weigh their letters and sell and buy stamps to put on them. We looked at different places on the globe and I talked about how heavy packages or letters that have to be delivered far away cost more to send and need lots of stamps.





Integrating art, play, and social studies into our study of the post office.

Our art teacher, Carolyn King continued children's study of the art elements of shape, line, and pattern by having the children make houses along a curved road.

We then used the children's art work as a spring board to pretend to deliver mail to each other, reinforcing concepts about how mail moves across the country & the world.



We glued children's photos to their houses, looked up their real addresses and found their addresses using a Tucson street map, exposing children to reading and geography skills. Click [HERE](#) for ideas on how to help your child gain geography concepts. Children then wrote letters to each other and delivered them to each other's houses. I read a book about how mail is delivered and how it used to be delivered.

