

This week was made up of some exciting and full days out and some more relaxed days in, but overall lots of learning and excitement!

The girls continue to work diligently on their math and English via a combination of bookwork and tablet/online work. In math, we have also made use of several math board games (such as *The Fraction Game* and *Colour Code*) as well as regularly doing group logic and problem solving. English is never bookwork only - the girls each read every day and also write something each day, as well as having read-aloud time and/or continuing along our Narinia audiobook series.

For science, the children have had a variety of experiences this week. From outings to the Agriculture Museum and Rock and Gem show to creating their own science videos, they have really covered a lot of ground! Early in the week, we had a friend over for homeschooling and started the day off slowly by watching science videos and having a group discussion afterwards. The girls have all worked on video science projects this week, either in the preparation stage or filming stage. Some created videos of experiments while following an assignment checklist, and some began writing their "scripts" for greenscreen videos on a science topic of their choice. We, as usual, also included some science bookwork, hands on experiments, and a nature study, this week on leaf gall and wild fruit.

Physical education has been largely through jiu jitsu so far this year as we wait for our other activities to begin, but we have also explored other opportunities. We, once again, had the opportunity to get out on the lake and go tubing. The girls were watched closely and again assessed on their ability to follow the rules and safety precautions, among other things. We also spent some time practicing our basic circus skills in poi, plate spinning, stilts, and juggling.

The girls have continued to perfect the songs they have already learned on piano and continue to learn new material as well as honing their theory skills. Most of the girls can also be found playing the ukulele at some point during most days and hope to increase their repertoire soon. We also worked in some choral ensemble this week, working on having the girls sing in two part harmony. It was also lovely to see Rosalee teaching her friend Ellie to play piano during a visit this week!

We have been lucky enough to have several days this week where we had friends join us for boardgames, sometimes bringing their own to share and sometimes sharing in our games. A new house favourite is *Purrlock Holmes*, which is an exciting game of logic and deduction. The girls also continue to bring out their "school" favourites like *Pokey Dokey* and *Wheel of Fortune* as well as eagerly learning new games as often as possible.

Some of our most exciting and educational times this week were outside of typical school hours, on the weekend. On Saturday, we went to the Indonesian Festival where we talked to artisans, sampled Indonesian food, and watched in Indonesian dance group. We even found a Indonesian caterer who will come and work with the girls later in the season to teach them

indonesian cooking. The girls were very engaged and are incredibly excited to learn more about the country in the coming weeks!

Also on Saturday, we attended a homeschool friend's birthday party where some of the girls put their face painting skills (which they had been practicing throughout the week) to use painting the other children's faces. They also played physical games like limbo and an estimation game where they got to use their math skills.

Later on Saturday, we had some fun out at Seaway Valley Wrestling. The girls struck up a conversation with a vendor selling lucha masks and we decided that we would do an art/sewing workshop with him to learn to design and sew our own masks.

On Sunday, we started our day with a visit to the arboretum to do our nature-based art homework, given by our art teacher who had visited earlier in the week. The girls also did some nature exploration and wildlife viewing, as well as making botanical rubbings of some of the local trees.

Later on Sunday, we attended the Rock and Gem show for several hours where we shopped for minerals, asked questions of the vendors, learned to hand polish mineral specimens, made jewellery with mineral samples, looked at microminerals, attended a presentation with the geological society, and more! We were also very excited to chat with several of the vendors, such as the micromineral society and the geological society about running homeschool workshops this year.

In addition to all of their basic learning, Dahlia had an opportunity to self-tape for the new *Blue's Clues* series, we had Dahlia's family birthday celebration, the girls have been advancing in Duolingo Kids French, have been cooking and learning new kitchen skills regularly, and have spent lots of wonderful social time with friends and family!