



# Woodward Head Start

## January 2017

From the Teachers:



This month's theme is "Animals Everywhere." We will read stories and learn about the many different land and sea animals from around the world. We will learn about different animal habitats and how they adapt to weather changes. The children will explore the differences between wild and domestic animals. The winter season is here so we will do more experiments with ice, snow and talk about arctic animals as well. Through the Second Step Curriculum the children will learn to 1) understand strong feelings, 2) recognize how they are feeling and 3) calm down strong feelings when they occur.

### A Message from Our President

#### Woodward Parent Meeting

Many important topics are discussed and parent input is greatly needed as classroom decisions are dependent upon your Parent Meeting attendance. Please join us! :)

We would like to thank Jack Lasky for returning the \$ 15.00 gift card he won during the November Parent Meeting drawing. His kindness allowed us to purchase presents for the children.

### Mark your Calendars:

- \* Family Engagement  
January 13th
- \* No School/ Martin Luther King's Birthday  
January 16th
- \* Parent Meeting  
January 20th 9:30am
- \* Field Trip to Blue Springs January 20th



We thank you for your generosity !



## Reminders from the Teachers

- ◇ Please remember to check and return your child's blue folder every day.
- ◇ We ask that your child leaves his or her personal toys at home.
- ◇ Please check to make sure that your child has a change of clothing that is appropriate for the weather.

From the Desk of Dr. Marcy Guddemi



Let's make January perfect attendance month for your child! The research on being absent finds that chronic absenteeism in preschool can predict chronic absenteeism in the later grades. Frequent absenteeism puts children at risk for academic underachievement. For example, one study found that about 25 percent of students who were chronically absent in Pre-K and Kindergarten were retained in later grades, compared to only nine percent of their regularly attending peers. Your child is learning important things at Head Start and if he/she is not here, then it is lost learning.

What can you do to help your child stay well so he/she can attend school every day? Washing hands frequently at home is one thing you can do. When children arrive at school, the first thing they do is wash their hands. We also wash hands frequently throughout the day: before breakfast and lunch, after using the restroom, and when returning after outdoor play time. Follow the same routine at home. Have your child wash his/her hands every time you come home, always before each meal or snack, after toileting, and before bedtime. Washing hands can be fun! Sing, "This is the way we wash our hands, wash our hands, wash our hands. This is the way we wash our hands, all day long!" By the way, the more times you wash your hands, the less chance you have of being sick yourself this season!



Here's to a happy healthy New Year for you and your family! Dr. G.

## Policy Council Update for December 2016



The December Policy Council meeting was held on Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am via video conference. Fourteen policy council members (12 parents and 2 community partner members) were present.

The following persons were approved for hire:

*Dawnelle Noles, Program Substitute - Volusia (East side)*

*Yeymary Gordian, Center Aide - Coleman Center, Volusia (West side)*

The following reports were approved: Budget and Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Area and Center. Three parent activity requests were approved.

The Galileo Outcomes Analysis Report and six new educational procedures were reviewed.

The next Policy Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 10 am. It will be a face to face meeting in Leesburg.

**From the desk of Nelly Pagan Family Advocate: Nelly Pagan, Family Advocate:**

I hope that everybody had a wonderful holiday. I want to thank all of the families that participated in the Snow Day. We all had a great time!

As a reminder, please save the day for the parents meetings, we have valuable information to share with you.

If you need my assistance with anything PLEASE don't hesitate to call me at (386) 774-1520 or email me: [npagan@mfcs.us.com](mailto:npagan@mfcs.us.com).

See you soon!

Thank you!

**Nelly Ann Pagán**

Family Advocate

Blue Lakes / Deltona Lakes / Woodward

Office: 386-774-1520

Cell: 352-277-1619

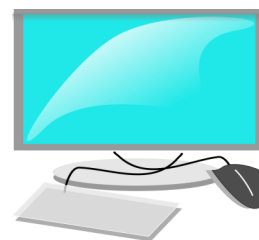
[npagan@mfcs.us.com](mailto:npagan@mfcs.us.com)

**Dear Parents:**

**The Galileo computer program is one of the tools that teachers use to record and measure each child's progress.**

**Its easy!!! Parents can log on to Galileo anytime from any computer with internet access.**

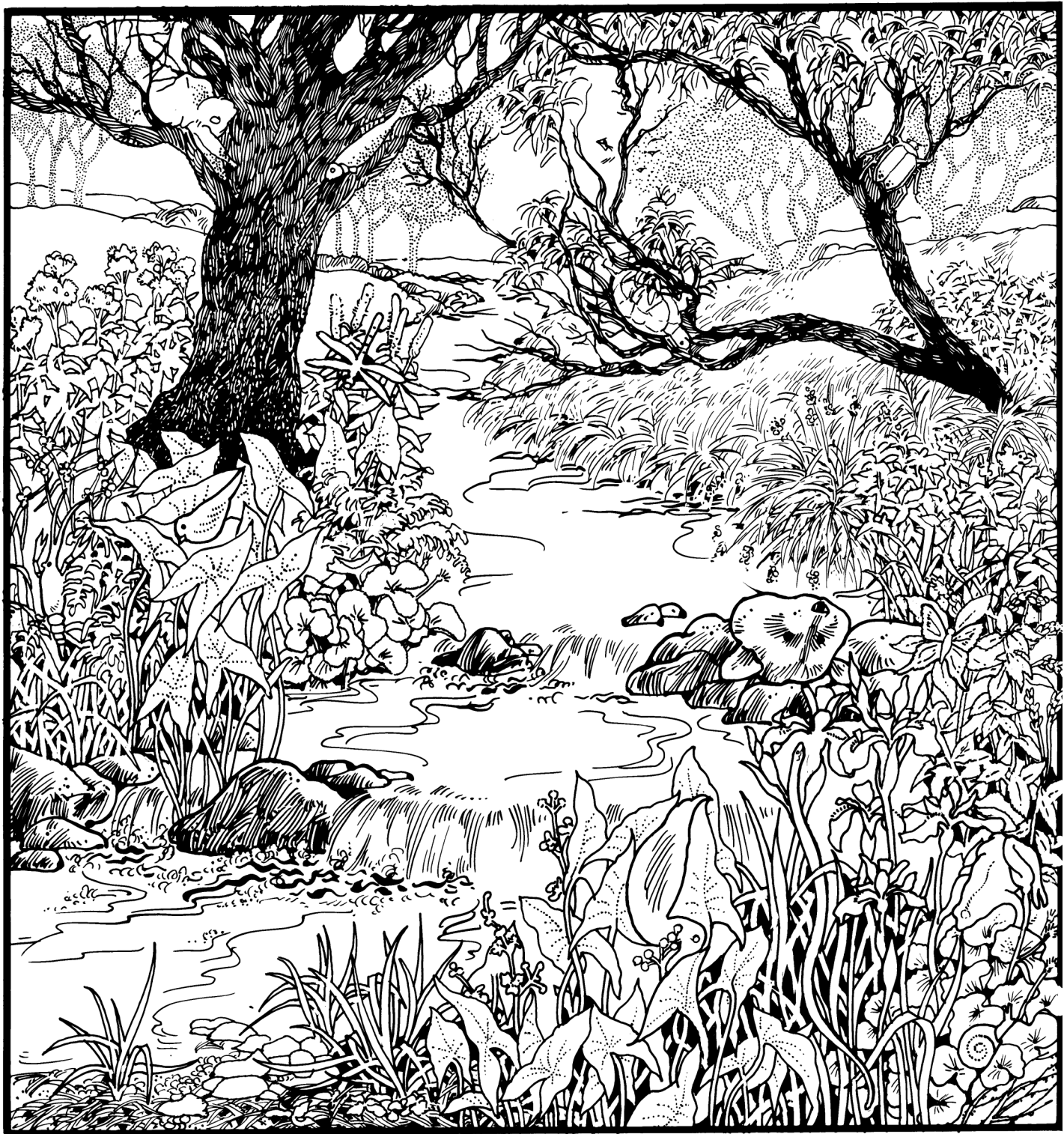
**Using Galileo, parents and teachers work together to help children achieve success in school.**



<http://www.ati-online.com>

**Select Pre-K Parent Center. Ask the teacher for passwords if you don't have them.**

# Family Fun!



Find the fourteen animals that are hiding in this picture: crayfish, beetle, songbird, snake, fish, turtle, dragonfly, duck, rabbit, snail, frog, butterfly, raccoon's head and a person's face.

## How many animals can you find?