



Students in the PreK Learning Center spend time together exploring books and songs, learning “wow” words, and cultivating a love of learning that prepares them for success.

“Wow”-inspired learning

Always bustling with activity, the PreK Learning Center is a fun place where storytime, songs and movement, and making first best friends translate into a lifelong love of exploration.

A favorite part of the day is when students gather on a colorful rug to learn a new “wow word,” found in a story they’ve recently read together. Teacher Betsy Barnett holds up a colorful picture and asks students to describe what they see. They chime in excitedly: Streets. Houses. People. Cars.

“They look busy!” one says. “Everyone is going somewhere,” another adds.

“I see that, too,” Mrs. Barnett responds. “Today’s wow word is ‘bustling.’ Can everyone say that? In this picture, we see a bustling street, lots of people doing lots of things. Have you ever heard ‘bustling’ before?”

Throughout the day, students explore new ways to use their wow word. At the end of the day, they proudly wear the word on a “wow band” so they can share what they’ve learned with their family.

“We call them ‘wow words’ because it’s exciting for students this age to learn new vocabulary,” Barnett explains. “If you ask them about their wow band, they’ll tell you all about it!”



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Young ravens are fond of playing games with sticks, repeatedly dropping them, then diving to catch them in midair.