



Children's Choice Chronicle

Manzano Mesa



- Winter Break is approaching quickly. Be sure to sign up through your parent portal. Winter Break December 21st -January 5th. Sack lunches are required for all full days. Registration will open up the week of December 12th.

-Children's Choice Closed December 23rd, December 26th, and January 2nd.

-Share your voice! Please remember to fill out your online parent survey! More information can be found in the parent area.

-Please bring in or email a family photo for our Children's Choice Community Tree at manzanomesa@childrens-choice.org

- Please bring your Hope Works donations to the site, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.



Helpful Information

~Site Phone: 505-974-9321 ~Office Phone: 296-2880 ~Site Email: Manzanomesa@childrens-choice.org

~Billing Email: Sara@Childrens-choice.org ~Registration Email: [Welcome@Childrens-choice.org](mailto>Welcome@Childrens-choice.org)

~Financial Assistance Available: nmececd.org or call 800-6919067



Introducing Thea, Caregiver

Hello everyone,

My name is Thea and I am very happy to be at Children's Choice! This is my first time working at an afterschool program, and I really enjoy being around everyone especially the kids. Getting to learn new things about everyone and share laughs with the kids is one of my favorite parts of my day.

I'm currently in College, studying veterinary medicine! I love sports and I played a lot when I was in high school. I also love animals. I have four dogs and two cats! I am very happy to be working here and I want to bring more ideas and fun to children's choice!

-Thea



Our Plan at a Glance:

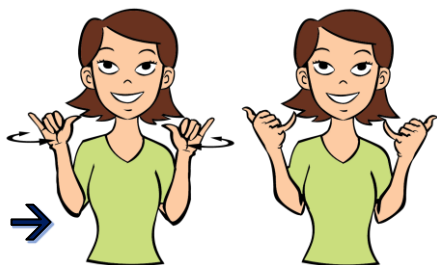
November 28th _____

December 9th

Monday 11/28	Tuesday 11/29	Wednesday 11/30	Thursday 12/1	Friday 12/2
<p>Football with Berto</p> <p>Cup Stacking Challenges with Hunter</p> <p>Older Kids Meeting</p>	<p>Mini Houses with Aubrey and Monique</p>	<p>Pineapple Lanterns with Nia and Hunter</p> <p>Finger Puppets with Tait</p>	<p>Flip Books with Finley and Monique</p>	<p>D&D Club with Tait and Ben continued</p>
Monday 12/5	Tuesday 12/6	Wednesday 12/7	Thursday 12/8	Friday 12/9
<p>Cardboard Castle with Hunter</p>	<p>Jewelry Making with Monique and Katie continued</p>	<p>\$300 Club with Monique: Biscochitos</p> <p>Jump the Lazer with Hunter</p>	<p>Soccer with Berto</p>	<p>Marble Tracks with Tait</p>

The Spanish is: Play → desempeñar

Let's try in sign language! →



Jump the River with Hunter:

I wanted to show the kids a game I used to play when I was young called Jump the River. After explaining the rules, Zefram and Khang took the reigns and ran the whole thing.

Zefram was so excited, and said, "I think we jumped seven feet!"



Fencing with Owen

Owen has been a great long-term sub for us during our morning program. The kids have taken a liking to his fencing activities. Owen has done a fantastic job explaining how to partner fence safely, and has stressed the importance of checking on our friends after each point is made. This activity has taught our kids a great amount of sportsmanship, and they continue to ask for this activity each time they see Owen.



Painting on Canvases with Adalynn and Monique:

Adalynn was interested in painting so she started experimenting with our water colors and then decided she would like to try other types of paint. After some conversations with the staff she planned a painting activity where the kids would try acrylic paints on canvas. Adalynn wanted to make sure everyone that wanted to try these new materials had the opportunity. So, the plan was to provide the materials and allow the kids to paint whatever made them happy, and to reassure everyone that painting is just for fun, so it's okay when you mess up.

During the activity, Monique explained the differences between water colors and acrylic paint. Some examples included the staining properties of acrylic paint. She explained that it was important to wear a smock while painting with acrylic paint because if it soaked into their clothes, it would definitely stain them. This conversation led to questions such as "will the paint stain my hands?" Monique explained that with some warm soapy water, the acrylic paint will wash right off.

There was also a discussion on how to take care of our paint brushes. Monique used a ballerina analogy to explain how much pressure should be used on the bristles of brushes. "You should pretend that the bristles of the paint brushes are like the toes of a ballerina. The Ballerina doesn't smash her toes into the ground, she lightly touches the floor with the tips of her toes. Just like the bristles of our brushes should lightly move across our canvases." This really helped the kids understand how much pressure should be used on our brushes in order to keep them in good condition.

