

Dear Mom and Dad,

Since April is Earth Month, today the Art Mom came into our class and presented a Masterpiece of the Month which helped us think about preserving our environment.

We learned about Dr. Seuss (Theodore Seuss Geisel). I always new that he wrote great books with funny characters, but never really though of him as an “Artist.”

Aside form being a beloved author and illustrator, many considered Dr. Seuss an imaginative genius. And his books were masterpieces. We learned that these were different kinds of masterpiece than the Mona Lisa...but masterpieces nonetheless.

Theodor Seuss Geisel (March 2, 1904 to September 24, 1991) was an American writer and cartoonist, known for his children's books written under his pen name, Dr. Seuss. He published over 60 children's books, which sold more than 200 million copies. His books, which he both illustrated and wrote, have been translated into twenty languages as well as Braille. Unlike “typical” book illustrators, Dr. Seuss’ works have been exhibited in several museums, including several original illustrations from the book we read today.

We read the book, The Lorax, where Dr. Seuss helps us think about how important it is to preserve nature. In 1971, when he wrote it, loggers were clearing forests at an alarming rate, which was really hurting the environment. The Great Northern Owl and other creatures were in danger of extinction. Many people think that the Dr. Seuss created his Lorax to remind us of the great northern owl. What do you think, can you see the resemblance?



We looked at the colors that Dr. Seuss used in his book and thought about how his color choice can affect and convey a mood.

We tried to use Seuss-like shapes and invent out draw our own “Seuss-like” trees and characters.



Reading The Lorax really helped me think about ways we can preserve our environment. Maybe we can talk at home about this important subject and little things we can do to help. For instance, just keeping a cloth towel by the kitchen sink for hand drying, instead of paper towels, could help out those trees. ***On the back of this letter, maybe you could think of a new message for the Lorax to say.***

If you want to learn more little steps, visit www.takebabysteps.org. You can also see more about Dr. Seuss at www.masterpieceofthemonth.org.



What would the Lorax say to help the world today?