**Giraffe’s Class Visit – Dimensions**

**13/02/20**

This afternoon’s visit was a Geography themed lesson where the children had just finished watching a video of an igloo being made. I was fascinated by how engrossed the children were at what they had just seen and they couldn’t wait to get started on each of the different work stations.

There were 3 set up, one with lego, one with pictures of food and one with pictures of clothing. I was intrigued to see what the children in their small groups would be doing.

The first group I sat with were asked to build an igloo out of lego. I thought I’d join in and started to make my own igloo then looked back at the pair who were sat with me and they had decided to work together to create the biggest igloo ever! So I stopped and instead helped them as they were encouraged to tell each other what each one was doing. For example if one was building a wall with a window then they would have to explain just that. This really did encourage team work as well as provide the children with the opportunity to communicate with each other and explain their actions. After our time was over on this workstation the children asked for a photo of their massive igloo to be taken and it was clear to see just how proud they were.

The next station had pictures on and the children were asked who lives in an igloo. I was blown away when they answered this and even more blown away when the teacher asked them what did they like to eat! Yes, the children had the pictures but a walrus is not the easiest of animals to remember so when one said what it was I thought wow. Slowly and carefully cutting out the 8 pictures the children stuck them in their books and had to write next to each picture what each was. They really enjoyed doing this and it was clear from their topic books that they looked being creative in this way.

Finally, the last station was pictures of what an Inuit wears and there were a choice of the items for the children to choose from. Again, some of the items I thought were really difficult like the boots are called mukluks yet the children could identify this and knew that it would keep them warm in the snow.

While I was in class today I also had a look at a sketch book that had pictures of the visits the children have made so far and it was simply incredible – the children have been so very lucky to have been to so many different places from the museum to the farm to the art gallery and even to a mosque. I think it is crucial that children have the opportunity to visit such places and will really help them to understand more about different communities and cultures.

I had a really lovely time and can’t wait to go back and spend time with the class!

Christine McGowan