

Our Research Project

Reptiles

Turtles - lizards -snakes



Notre Project

Les reptiles

Les tortues- les lézards

– les serpents

Our Learning Story:



In the Spring of 2012, one of our Kindergarten classroom pets – a gecko - died. We were all sad to see her go and wondered if we should get a new pet to fill the now empty cage.

We questioned which reptile would make the best pet?

How should we best care for the reptiles we already had?

AND SO with this spark of interest, a fire of learning began.....

We had a lot of questions about these reptiles.
We decided that we would choose to study the
pet we liked best:

Spike – the
bearded dragon
(le lézard)



Diamond Star –
the corn snake
(le serpent)

Leo –the red-eared
slider turtle
(la tortue)



The students chose which reptiles they wanted to study by adding their initials to the column of their choice.

un lézard	un serpent	une tortue
		
PO LE.RI BK DL	LPLHIA AK ^{GA} CM KA LJ	THBE CLTK HB

FIRST -

We brainstormed things we knew and things we wanted to learn about reptiles. Mme Fortier wrote it all down on the SMARTboard.

We also learned new French vocabulary that we would use when talking about our reptile.

(see SMARTboard print-out)

We decided that we would use books, specialists and “google” to find the answers to our questions. We also decided that we would create a book of answers to share with others.



THEN

We divided into our study groups and talked about what we knew about the reptile we were studying and what we wanted to learn. Mme Fortier wrote it all down on the white board.



Des reptiles

- snakes
- lizards
- frogs?
- dinosaurs
- crocodiles
- geckos
- chameleons
- eat crickets - food?
- cold blood
- no fur
- scales
- eggs (babies)
- alive
- need crickets
- live in deserts
- live in wet places

un serpent



- il a des écailles
 - il glisse
 - il a du sang froid
 - il a la peau lisse
- they are covered in scales
 - they can wrap in a tight ball (coil)
 - they have a cool tongue
 - they don't have legs, they slither
 - they are smooth
 - they are cold

Des serpents - Diamond Star

Questions: Serpent

- How many teeth do snakes have?
- Can snakes move on everything?
(experiment with glass)
- How does our snake move?
- How does snakes smell?
- Why does a snakes tongue look like a fork?
- Do all snakes of the same kind look the same? Would they be friends?
- Can they jump?
- How do they slide?

une tortue



- elle nage et il marche
- elle a une carapace
- elle se cache
- elle a quatre pattes
- elle a des écailles

- they can swim
- they have scales and a shell
- they hide in their shell
- their shell protects them
- they have 4 legs

Les tortues - Leo

red-eared slider

Questions:

- What does Leo eat?
- How do they have babies? What do they do with their babies?
- Do turtles drink water?
- What do turtles do on land?
- How far can they swim?
- What do turtles do in water?
if they are scared or mad?

un lézard



- il a des écailles
- il est armé de pointes
- il a des griffes
- il est rugueux
- il marche et il court et il grimpe
- il aime le soleil
- rough + spiky
- they eat worms
- they eat crickets + salad
- they have scales + claws
- they love the lamp + the sun

Des Lézards: (Spike)

Dragon Barbu

Questions:

How does Spike grow?

How old is Spike?

Why does Spike have spikes -?

armée des pointes

How big can Spike get?

Can Spike drop his tail like some lizards?

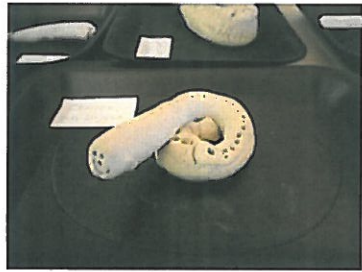
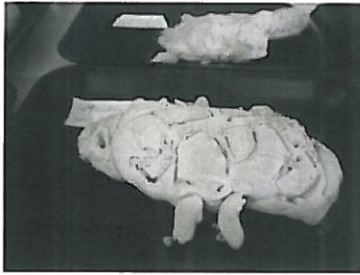
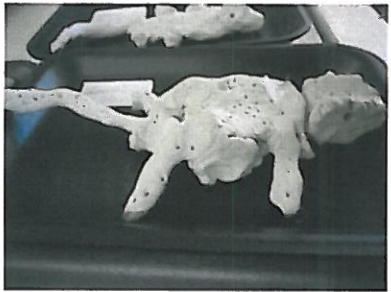
Would Spike bite? What does Spike do when he is scared?

Does he see really good?

Representation:
We worked with clay, paint and pencil to represent the reptiles we were studying.







Research/ Site visit/ Specialist visit:

We had a visit from our reptile specialist Mr. View. He brought other kinds of reptiles for us to see. We even got to see the snake eat a mouse! He also answered some of our questions about snakes and bearded dragons.



We visited Ms. Heather's preschool to see the red-eared slider turtle that lives there. We were able to see Leo eat and Ms. Heather answered some of our turtle questions and gave us a piece of Leo's shell that he had shed!



Legends:

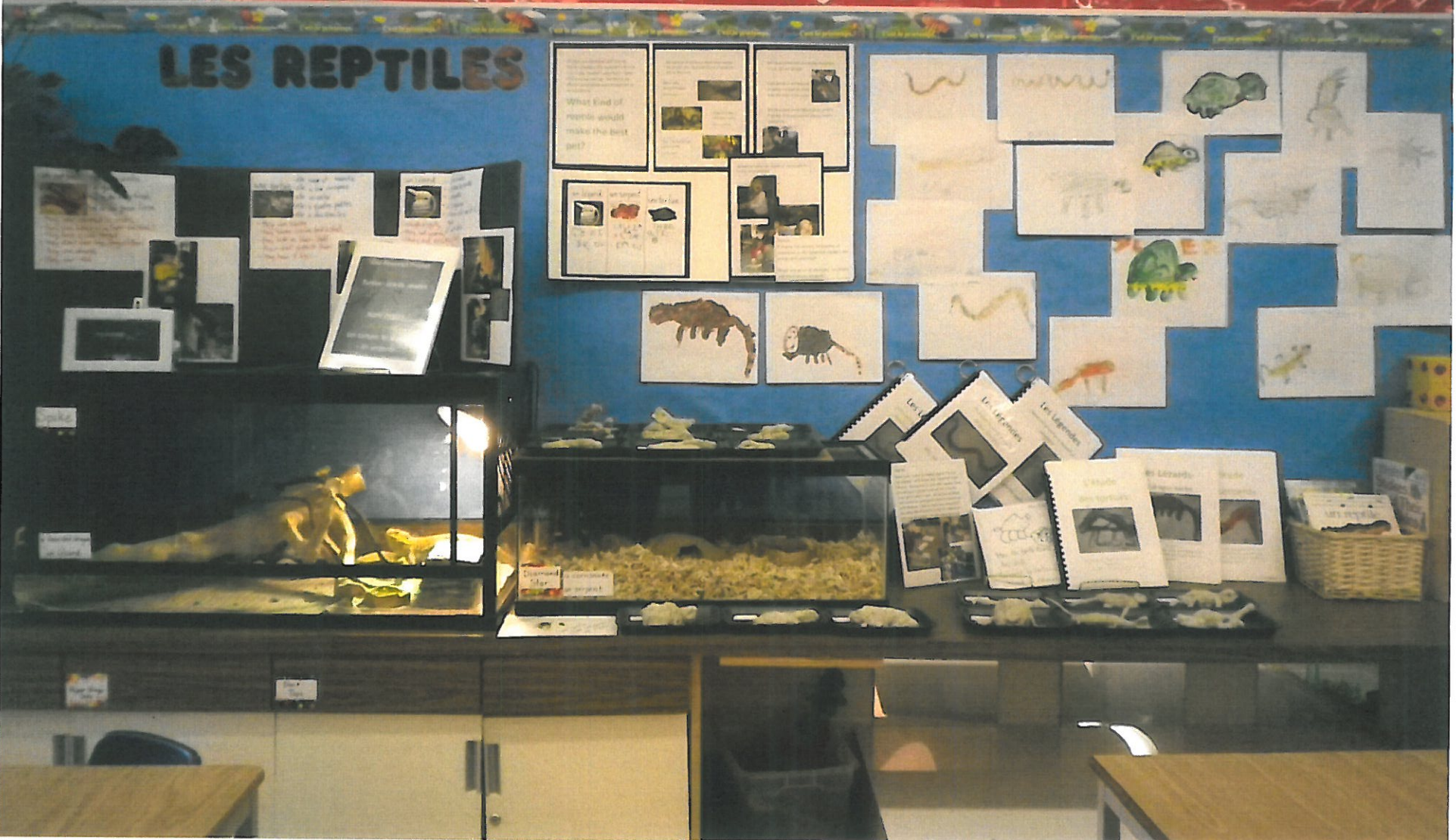
Mme Fortier read a First Nations legend “The First Strawberries – A Cherokee story.” Retold by Joseph Bruchac. She also told us some other legends, “How the red-squirrel got his bushy tail” and “How the skunk got his white stripe”. We decided we would like to write our own legends about the reptiles we were studying. Students spent time every school day asking Mme Fortier to scribe their legends as then they illustrated it. We also acted them out!

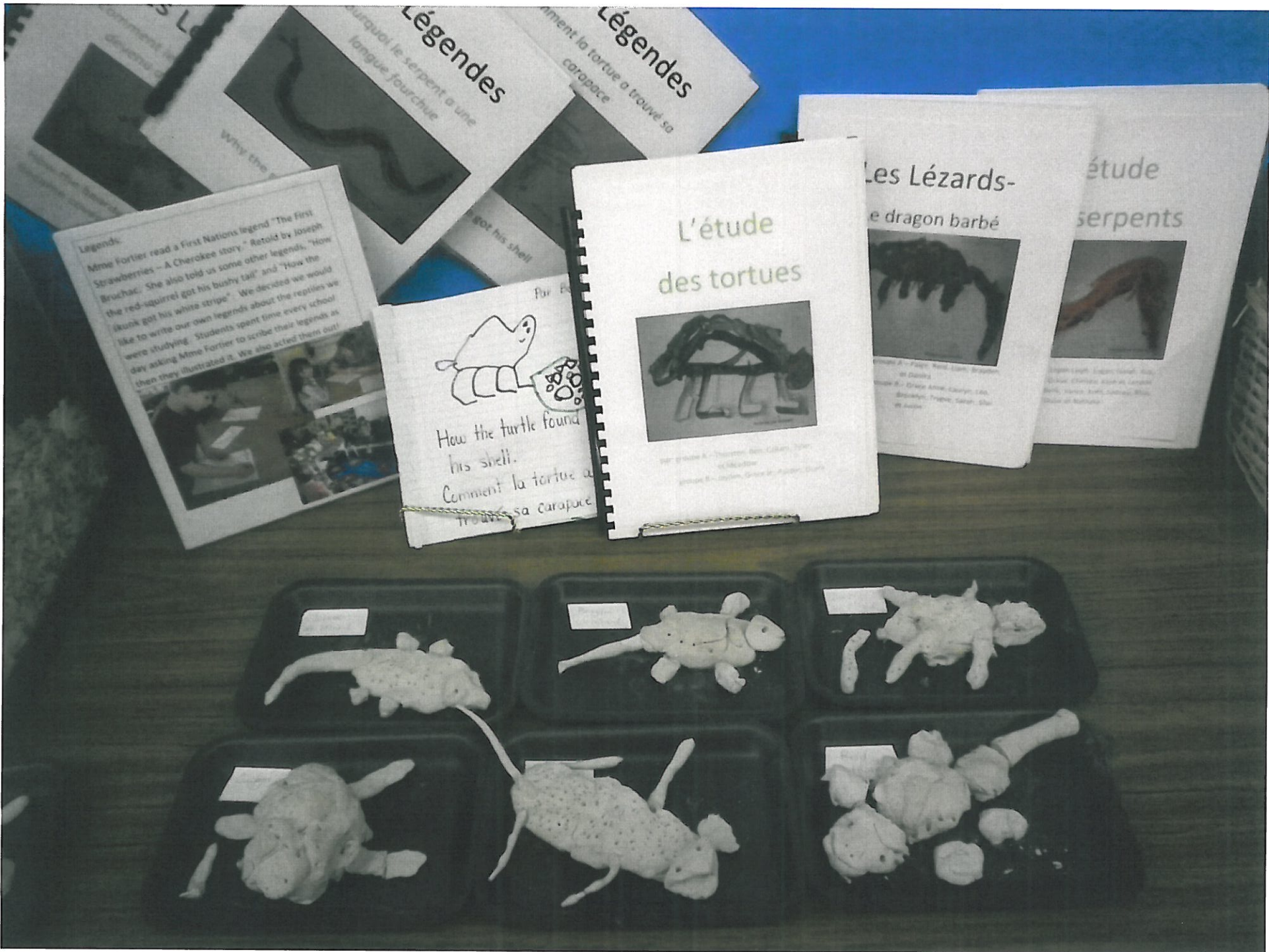


L'ALPHABET

A B C D E Z

LES REPTILES





Légendes
Comment la tortue a trouvé sa carapace

Legends.
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How the turtle found his shell.
Comment la tortue a trouvé sa carapace.

L'étude des tortues

Les Lézards- le dragon barbé

L'étude des serpents