We received a donation of a children’s kitchen set last month. We knew it was going to be a huge hit as soon as we saw it. In addition to a play sink, stove, refrigerator and microwave, the set included dishes, cooking utensils and all kinds of food items. The kitchen has been set up in the little classroom where it is a favorite free-time activity center.

Last Saturday a very distressed Yamilet came to find Sister Carol. She and Reyna, both age 8 with Down’s Syndrome, were playing in the “kitchen” with older siblings Andrea, Pati and Janet. Yami pulled at Carol’s hand and pointed to the classroom. Carol followed her to find that some of the boys had descended on the kitchen and were ruining everything that the girls had set up. In her sternest voice, Sister Carol shouted, “OUT!” and the marauders departed immediately! Calm was restored to the kitchen and the girls continued in peace. (The boys will have their playtime in the kitchen later!)

The escuelita is back in session and the students are happy for the return to routine with their teachers, Cristina and Nancy. We are hoping to begin a religious education program for special needs children in the next month or so. Fr. Bill Morton is now the pastor of the local parish, Corpus Christi of Rancho Anapra, and he is enthusiastic about this collaboration with Santo Niño. Sofia is already a certified catechist and we are excited to explore this new area of service to our children and the local Church.

We hope you have a relaxing Labor Day weekend and we thank God for your support and prayers.