

### Highlights of the Week

As we continued our study of South American this month, Brazil - the largest country in South America was introduced. The children learned some pretty interesting facts about the country; e.g., Brazil is the only country in South America that speaks Portuguese, all the others speak Spanish; the majority of it includes the largest rainforest in the world - The Amazon; the second longest river in the world is too called the Amazon; the favorite sport is football but in our country we call it soccer; Brazil's flag has a rectangle, rhombus and sphere.

Another vertebrate group was introduced - Birds. Attributes of birds are: they have wings, feathers, lay eggs and are cold bloodied. We discussed that some birds do not fly, such as the ostrich (runs very fast) and penguin (swims). We also talked about the largest "flying" bird in the world which is found in South America, the Andean Condor. Its wing span is over 10 feet. We did a test in class to help the children visualize 10 feet. It took 11 boys and girls standing side by side to measure a little over 10 feet!

We've been having periodic talks all week about the 3 R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

#### Dr. Maria Montessori's Words:



*"Only through freedom and environmental experience is it practically possible for human development to occur."*

#### Reminders:

- Tea with Mom **May 10th** at 8:45am to 9:30AM or 10:00AM to 10:45AM
- Detroit Zoo Field Trip **May 25th** **No regular school** on this day the whole school will be at the Zoo.
- Memorial Day **May 28th** **No School**
- May Day Mixer **May 29th**
- Music Program/Graduation **June 1st** **No PM Kids Club**

#### Home/School Connection

**Muffins with Mom** invitations were sent home on Wednesday. It included the information needed to sign up on line. Moms, please be sure to RSVP by May 8.

We've already begun work on your special gift. Hope you all will be able to join us for tea and muffins!

