



Highlights of the Week

Spring is always a happy, busy time. The children have started rehearsal for their spring concert. Some of the students have been talking about the nocturnal animals that we read about last week. Bodhi and Owen said " we are nocturnal so we should sleep right now".

In our science area we are learning about frogs and tadpoles. Some students are able to read and label parts of the frog. The other students are able to match the words to the body part. We have also just started talking our new caterpillars. The student will observe them daily and watch as they transform.

In the language area we are working rhyming words and creating books.

In the art area the students love doing push pin work which helps with building their fine motor skills and that helps with pencil grip.

The student have been completing their Mother's Day gifts and they are very excited about surprising you.

Dr. Maria Montessori's Words:



" Kindness consists in interpreting the wishes of Others, in conforming one's self to them , and sacrificing , if need be, one's own desire."

Reminders:

- ACES May 9th
- Tea with Mom 8:45 or 10:00AM May 11th
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Home/School Connection

Please make sure that your child has a spare change of clothes for the spring weather. All snow boots can go home. The children are not allowed to wear open toe or heel and sandals. Our playground has woodchips and plus it is hard for the kids to run around outside in sandals.

Highlights of the Week

The continent of Australia was introduced this week. The children were shown why Australia is also known as the “land down under”. It was mentioned that Australia is also a **country**, its capital is Canberra, it has six states. The states of Australia are: Western Australia, Northern Territory, South Australia, Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria. We talked briefly about the original people of Australia, called aborigines. (We will discuss them more later.)

The word marsupial was explained as a few animals indigenous to Australia were introduced. Those animals were: lyrebird, kangaroo, platypus, koala, black swan. Marsupials are animals that carries its young in a pouch. The most popular marsupial being the kangaroo.

As we culminate our study of South America, we discussed the rainforest. The Amazon Rainforest, found mostly in Brazil, is the largest in the world. There are 4 layers: emergent, canopy, understory, and forest floor. Interestingly, there are animals that never leave their layer of the rainforest.

Dr. Maria Montessori's Words:



“Free the child’s potential and you will transform him into the world.”

Home/School Connection



Happy Belated Birthday Wishes to Sebastian Villasenor. He took 6 “Walks Around the Sun” on April 23rd. Happy 6th Year of Life, Sebastian!

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Maple Room

Scribbles

May 4th, 2018

Highlights of the Week

Dear families, this week we have started the exciting study of BUTTERFLIES through books, hands-on works and observation. This is one of the children's favorite topics: they love to observe and to notice all the changes the caterpillars go through, they anxiously wait for the butterflies to come out of the cocoon and they love to share what they see!

These are some of the books that we have been reading:

- "The very hungry caterpillar", by Eric Carle;
- "Ten little caterpillars", by Bill Martin Jr.;
- "Caterpillars and butterflies", by Stephanie Turnbull.

And following are the new works introduced this week:

Practical life: Screwing two wooden pieces together. This work strengthen the hands muscles, it enhances hand-eye coordination and it also teaches the children some patience!

Science: The caterpillars have arrived to our classroom! The children love to observe them every day as they eat and grow. I asked the children to make a prediction about what they think will happen to the caterpillars and some of them said: "They will turn into butterfly!", or: "They will make a cocoon!". Great guessing my young scientists!

To help the toddlers to learn about the life cycle of a butterfly, a new matching work come on hand: the children have to match the animal figure of the different stages of the life cycle to the right picture.

Language: Life cycle of a butterfly words: egg, caterpillar, chrysalis, butterfly.

Sign language: Butterfly.

Cooking project: No real "cooking" this week but still a hands-on activity with food. We made butterflies out of apple slices and raisins: the teacher showed the children the model and they did their best to make their own butterfly on their plates. Of course, they could eat their butterflies at the end!

Dr. Maria Montessori Words:

"Many people must have noticed the intense attention given by children to the conversation of grown-ups when they cannot possibly be understanding a word of what they hear. They are trying to get hold of words, and they often demonstrate this fact by repeating joyously some word which they have been able to grasp." M. Montessori

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Home/School Connection

NO COOK SCENTED PLAY DOUGH

- 1 cup flour
- 1/4 cup salt
- 1 tablespoon cream of tartar
- 1/2 cup warm water
- Food coloring (5 to 10 drops)
- Essential oil for the lovely smell (1 drop)

Mix flour, salt and cream of tartar. Roll into a ball and make a well in the middle. Add the food coloring and the essential oil. Mix and roll until the color is well blended.



Willow Room

Scribbles

May 4th, 2018

Highlights of the Week

Our students are enjoying the month of May inside and outside the class room. The environment is rich in motives and activities that invite the child to conduct his/her own experiences. We practiced the following works this week.

Science: This week our students are learning about metamorphosis and the focus is the life cycle of butterfly. Children are observing real caterpillars with magnifying glass everyday in our classroom. As caterpillars are growing in size, children's excitement to see the real butterflies (coming out of the chrysalis soon), is also growing. Our older toddlers are anticipating the colors and size of butterflies.

Math: Children counted butterflies. They learned the new concept of few and more.

Language: We reviewed our phonetic sound "b". we discussed butterflies and read the book "The Hungry Caterpillar".

Sensorial: In sensorial area, feeling feathers and Feeling flowers work have been introduced. In Montessori Sensorial Exercises, the child learns to feel objects and make recognitions based on what he feels.

Practical life: Children practiced transferring feathers with cloth pins.

Food Prep: Children made butterflies with sliced apples, raisins, carrots and pretzels. It was so much fun.

Art: We painted butterflies, caterpillars and cocoons with different colors.

Dr. Maria Montessori Words:



"Establishing lasting peace is the work of education; all politics can do is keep us out of war".

Home/School Connection:

The purpose and aim of Sensorial work is for the child to acquire clear, conscious, information and to be able to then make classifications in his environment. Montessori believed that sensorial experiences began at birth. Through his senses, the child studies his environment. Through this study, the child then begins to understand his environment. The child, to Montessori, is a "sensorial explorer".

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Highlights of the Week

Happy Friday Mulberry families!

I am sure we all have spring cleaning going on in full swing, and would always look for some extra hands. Wouldn't it be great if that was your child!! Our window cleaning, shelf cleaning and shell cleaning are the one of the favorites for everyone. Mulberry friends are enjoying and waiting for their turn.

While visiting South America we are exploring The Amazon River Basin, which is home to the largest rainforest on Earth. We are learning and understanding the four layers and importance of rainforest. Many of the things we have in our homes come from the rainforest like medicine, chocolate, sugar, spices, rubber, pineapples, coconut, bamboo and list goes on. Forests are very important because the plants there generate much of the Earth's Oxygen.

Did you know we share our planet with over 1 million species of insects? Some have wings, and some don't. But they all have a few things in common. These invertebrates have three parts: The head, the thorax and the abdomen. They have antenna and they have six legs. And guess what? A family of this group is visiting our classroom, stay tune.....

Dr. Maria Montessori's Words:



"When children come into contact with nature, they reveal their strength."

Maria Montessori

Home/School Connection

A celebration of holidays has been around as long as recorded history. Holiday traditions are an important part to building a strong bond between family, and our community. They give us a sense of belonging and a way to express what is important to us.

Cinco De Mayo is celebrated in Mexico and in Mexican American communities in the U. S. Each celebration is incomplete without food. Yes, our food prep activity of the week was chopping tomatoes, cilantro and avocado to make a fresh salad to enjoy with chips. While enjoying this yummy food we also made some papel Picados (tissue paper banner).

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Schoolhouse Scribbles

Olive Room

Scribble

April 27, 2018

Highlights of the Week

This week the children finished up their Mother's Day projects. The projects are filled with love just for Mom. The children are anticipating "Tea with Mom" and are so excited to share them. Thank you to those of you who will take the time out of your busy schedules to share some time with your children at this special occasion.

In the practical life area the children were introduced to plant care. When they choose this work they can water a plant, clean it's leaves and give it some crushed egg shells to help it grow.

In the sensorial area an extension charts of the Pink Tower, Brown Stairs and the geometric Solids were introduced to the class. The Children can use a few of the sensorial materials in a new way. They are encouraged to use their creativity and mathematical minds, for example they might choose to use the pink tower and the brown stair together trying to build what is represented in the picture.

In language the children are working hard to remember their sounds and match them to pictures of object with those sounds. Several children are working on being able to match the ending sounds of words and a few more children are building sentences with the Four Square work. Many of our children are reading and continue to build on their skills.

In math we have a few more children working on addition of four digit numbers and also reviewing single and double digit addition. Some children are working on counting 1-100.

All the children continue to receive lesson in all areas at their individual levels. It has been amazing to watch them develop individually as well as a group!

*"There is no one right way to be a good mother
but thousands of ways to be a great one."*



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Home/School Connection

Weather permitting you might be able to plant some annuals outdoors. Children love to help take care of plants, especially the watering part. It might be fun to walk in your neighborhood or a local park to see what others have planted that you might you like to add to your garden. Your children can help you think about spots in your yard that get more shade or sun and help to choose appropriate plants at the nursery. They could also help read some of the scientific names of the plants.



Highlights of the Month

Dear Schoolhouse Families,

We hope you all enjoyed your spring break filled with rest and time with your families. April has been a short month at Schoolhouse and it has been full of lots of curiosity, as to whether or not warm weather was coming and whether or not Ms. Filipaj's baby was coming! Avi Ana Filipaj was welcomed to the world on April 18th, 2018. Her Bright smile also brought bright flowers and bright smiles to our Kids Club!

Science- Ms. Poirier had some really nice ideas for the children. She continued to show the children Chemical reactions by making April's pink playdough. She also test wind and aerodynamics with the children after she introduced them to our kite and lead them in making paper airplanes! On the following week she presented a density experiment with the children.

Art- Art in the month of April has been done very independently by the students. They have happily used our Art Corner in the classes to color, paint, Stamp, Cut and pasting, and tracing wonderful pictures! We also are ending our month Making dip Died flowers for Ms. Filipaj as a gift! And Mrs. Lapalikar will proudly be leading Art for the rest of the year.

Theatre- Ms. Postek led the children in a Small improvisation game to act out parts of their daily routine. Doing activities children chose such as pretending to feed the dog, brush their teeth, pack a lunch, and more!

Gym- Ms. Arbel did out door activities such as the parachute, obstacle course, passing a soccer ball, and many more games!

Sign Language- At the Sign Language station the children will continue to practiced and master the alphabet!

Thank you for choosing Kids Club, we will do everything we can to keep all the students happy and safe. We hope you enjoy the start of the spring season!

Dr. Maria Montessori Words:

"Do not tell them how to do it. Show them how to do it and do not say a word. If you tell them, they will watch your lips move. If you show them, they will want to do it themselves".



Highlights of the Week

Dear families, as we continue to talk about the new season and all the changes that we are going to see outside in our backyards, we deepened the study of plants with new works, new songs and with the observation of the plants that we have in our classroom.

We also read books that I would like to list here for your reference:

- *Seed to Plant*, by Kristin B. Rattini;
- *Splat the Cat Oopsie-Daisy*, by Rob Scotton;
- *Five Tough and tiny Seeds*, by Steve Metzger;
- *Grow Flower, grow!*, by Lisa Bruce.

And following are the new works introduced this week:

Practical life: Sifting flour. When I presented the work some of the children said: “Mrs. Sizzi did it yesterday!”, meaning last week when I showed them the sifter for the first time during the preparation of our dinner rolls.

Sensorial: Colors light/dark. The toddlers are starting to study the different shades of colors. We began practicing only two shades (dark and light) of the colors that they are more familiar with: yellow, blue, red pink, purple, green.

Science: How plants grow matching work. The children have to match two pictures that represent the different stages of the growth of a plant: from the soil, the seeds and the water, to the sprout and the plant.

Language: Parts of flower: stem, leaves, flower.

Sign language: Flower.

Cooking project: Dirt (and messy...) pudding. The best part was crumbling all the cookies: the children loved to use their hands to crack and to smash them in little pieces! And licking their fingers after adding the whipping cream was another favorite part, too!

Dr. Maria Montessori Words:

“The consciousness of knowing how to make oneself useful, how to help mankind in many ways, fills the soul with noble confidence, almost religious dignity.”

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Home/School Connection

Spring is here!

As you bring to school your child with the new spring jackets, hats, rain boots, outdoor sweaters please, remember to label them with your child’s name to avoid misplacements and to ease our work in the classroom.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation.





Willow Room

Scribbles

April 27, 2018

Highlights of the Week

The living things in our environment are beginning to blossom. The world around us looks different and beautiful. Children are very active and playful and discovering the world around them. This week in each area we are working on the following:

Language: Our toddlers vocabulary is improving through our daily practice of listening stories and conversations. This week new phonetic sound "P" has been introduced. Children found out words that start with the sound "P". We read books about seeds and plants.

Math: Children counted sunflower seeds. We reviewed calendar. They also practiced number peg board. Our toddlers math skills are constantly improving and now they have a better sense of recognizing and counting numbers.

Sensorial: In sensorial, Smelling bottles work has been introduced. The purpose of this exercise is to make the child aware of scent in the environment. This work also helps in language development. Children can learn the names of the dried herbs or spices used.

Science: In science, we are learning about the "Life cycle of plants". This week Planting seeds is our favorite science activity. We used glass jars to plant our sun flower seeds in. After planting the seeds, children are learning the importance of watering and taking care of plants while observing their growth.

Practical Life: Children practiced sifting flour work. The exercises in Practical Life provide purposeful activity, develop motor control and coordination, develop independence, concentration, and a sense of responsibility.

Cooking projects: This week we made fruit salad. We were putting together a fruit salad recipe and one toddler realized that it had all the colors of the rainbow, so we named it rainbow fruit salad.

Dr. Maria Montessori Words:



"Establishing lasting peace is the work of education; all politics can do is keep us out of war".

Home/School Connection

Did you know that early water work leads to later Montessori skills of math, weights and measures, personal hygiene, cooking, history, science and tons of language work. As the infants moves into toddlerhood, water is experienced in more concrete terms of filling spoons, cups, pitchers and dumping or carefully pouring into a container. Every new experience awakens new nerves to form and increase cognitive functions.

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Highlights of the Week

Happy Friday Mulberry families!

Its spring, and finally it feels like it! We hear birds chirping and the rain falling during this April shower season. Isn't it relaxing! The sound of rain falling helps many people fall asleep, and the birds singing brings us joy and reassurance that summer is just around the corner!

This week we are learning about these feathery friends. Birds have feathers, wings, lay eggs and are warm blooded. The Ostrich is the largest bird in the world. It also lays the largest eggs and has the fastest running speed. Hummingbirds can fly backwards, and the bee hummingbird is the smallest living bird in the world.

In practical life, we enjoy the colorful assortment of feathers as we arrange them on cheese shakers, which enhance the creativity of a child to create different patterns by size, color and medium. It gives the idea that patterns are everywhere, and that one need to see and create them.

Our most popular work this week is blowing bubbles with a straw. Isn't it exciting? It is also a practical life and science lesson. It helps develop eye-hand co-ordination, and makes a child aware that air is an important part of the physical environment, and to demonstrate some of the air's properties.

Dr. Maria Montessori's Words:



"The goal of early childhood education should be to activate the child's own natural desire to learn."

Maria Montessori

Home/School Connection

Thank you for working and sending a worksheet with your child about how as a family you can take care of our Home- planate Earth by recycling, reducing and reusing.

Continue to the same topic, we are discussing about how we help Earth and how Earth helps us back.

This week we had special food prep. Mrs. Shah wanted to celebrate her Son's Birthday and shared a special treat in the classroom. We cooked cheese Quesadilla and all of us enjoyed it.

Thank you Mrs. Shah and wishing Sajan a very happy Birthday!

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Magnolia Room

Scribbles

April 27, 2018

Highlights of the Week

Spring has finally sprung, and not only outside, but inside our classroom we can finally open our windows to let the sound of nature in. Our classroom is full of explorers and hard workers as they continue to learn and refine their skills.

Language area: Many children are enjoying reading and have been reading early reader books along with the Bob books. The other students are working on their sounds and letter recognition. Some of the students are learning about sequencing and what doesn't belong in picture cards. Both these activities allow children to think and problem solve.

Science area: We have started talking about nocturnal (night) animals. We are also exploring parts of the tree, making books, matching cards and puzzles are some ways that will help the children learn.

Math area: The children have taken it outside. By using sidewalk chalk they have made tally marks all over the playground pavement. I thought it was quite interesting that they chose to do that rather than color pictures with the chalk or run around and play.

Dr. Maria Montessori's Words:



*"The most important period of life is not
The age of university studies, but the first one, the period
From birth to the age of six."*

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Home/School Connection

Thank you to all that have placed an order with Scholastic. The order should be in next week. It has truly helped us to add new books to our library area.

"You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax, all you need is a book."