



COUNTRY CHILDREN'S HOUSE NEWSLETTER

WELCOME TO SCHOOL!

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2016



MATH & SENSORIAL

Every week we will focus on a certain number, what it looks like and the value of it, and we will also be learning our number of the week in Spanish and a color in Spanish as well. With each letter of the week in Math the children will have the opportunity to choose many different adding and subtracting and counting works that correlate to the letter of the week. This helps reinforce the phonetic sound of each letter throughout their day.

"A" & "#0" WEEK- We learned that 0 means nothing. We learned that 0 is cero and red is rojo in Spanish. Our shape we reviewed was a circle. We had a lot of fun playing new works for the letter "A" which included ants on a hill, apples on a tree, acorn counting, animal sorting and animal cracker counting.

"T" & "#1" WEEK-We learned the color blue is called azul and the # 1 is uno in Spanish. Our review shape was a triangle. Our new works introduced this week included counting feathers for a turkey work, a train number matching work, the treasure chest and in Sensorial we introduced the tactile board.

"M" & "#2" WEEK-We learned #2 is dos and yellow is amarillo in Spanish. We reviewed the shape square and learned it has 4 equal sides & 4 corners. We enjoyed many fun choice works for "M" week. Some included measuring with worms, measuring monkeys and music notes.

Good questions to ask your child from Math: What did you count today that started with the letter of the week, who did you do a work with today, what number and shape are you learning about?

SCIENCE & GEOGRAPHY



"A" WEEK-We enjoyed classifying different animals into groups and studied how baby animals grow and change. We learned many facts about amphibians, including that they like to be in water and on land and lay their eggs in water.

"T" WEEK-Who Lives in a Tree? We read about the many animals that make the tree their home. We studied the different parts of a tree as well and learned that many change with the seasons. Turtles are very special, because they carry their home with them and need a shell to protect themselves. Turtles are reptiles and they lay their eggs on the land.

"M" WEEK-Magnets, magnets., magnets...a very fascinating discovery for children. We explored the classroom discovering what contained iron in the classroom that attracted the magnet. We studied maps and identified the 7 continents. While studying maps, we learned that not all land is flat. Some land is very high and this land is called mountains. We also learned about mammals. We enjoyed exploring the classroom with our magnifying glasses too.

We will learn about many different animals and places throughout the year together in Science!

Good Questions to ask in Science would be: did you learn about some type of animal or insect today? Do you remember where that animal lives? What work did you choose to do? Who did you do it with? This should open up conversation.



LANGUAGE & PRACTICAL LIFE

Each week we introduce the letter of the week in many different ways. We recognize it uppercase & lowercase visually, we phonetically learn it, we write it, we learn it in sign language, sing songs and we do the sound box. The sound box is a box for each week which contains objects in it that begin with the letter of the week. Each child has a turn picking out an object and we talk about the sound at the beginning of the word. We then go back around and pull out a word to match to the correct object. We use this activity to reinforce new vocabulary words too. On this day your child glues an object to the letter to help reinforce the phonetic sound. (This is a fun game to play at home with your children each week as well.) Handwriting is reinforced through Handwriting without Tears program. Your child will enjoy books read by the teacher that have the letter of the week in the title each week. In Practical Life every week we introduce something new that we can pour, scoop, wash or sweep.

Good questions to ask your child from Language and Practical Life: What object did you get out of the sound box, what did you scoop or pour, what does the letter of the week look like in sign language? Sing me the song you learned for the letter of the week.

ART & MUSIC



"A" WEEK- We created Apple paintings this week and studied apple paintings. We studied abstract art and colored or painted it. We learned the song "Ants Go Marching" & "Four Red Apples on a tree". We enjoyed several "Getting to Know You" songs.

"T" WEEK-We listened to Tchaikovsky and played the triangle & tambourine. We created tree paintings and made tambourines.

"M" WEEK-We studied the classical artist, Monet. We learned his pictures appear "fuzzy" and we created our own Monet art works. We learned about the Mona Lisa by Leonardo Da Vinci. We learned that it took 4 years to paint. We enjoyed maracas and mixing colors.

DIRECTOR NOTES



POSITIVE BEGINNINGS: We have had a wonderful beginning to the new school year. We have many new friendships already developing. All of the children seem to be adjusting very well and are really enjoying school.

Please do not hesitate to contact me either by phone, note or e-mail with any questions, comments or concerns.

I look forward to getting to know all of your children and working with the teachers in making this first introduction into school a positive experience for everybody.

MONTESSORI CORNER



Who is Maria Montessori? Maria Montessori was born in Ancona, Italy on August 31, 1870. At the age of 60 and with many accomplishments, she was offered a job at Casa dei Bambini, translated to The Children's House. Years of work at the Casa dei Bambini produced a series of conclusions that developed the foundation of the Montessori method. She passed away in 1952, leaving behind a successful educational philosophy and a thriving institution.