



In the Classroom:

The children have settled into their school routine. You may have heard the buzz from your children about our caterpillar guests. We had the great honor of not only watching our two big caterpillars evolve into butterflies, but also two eggs hatching giving us more guests to study and set free into nature. This led us into our study of insects and living/non-living in our science area. Things that have been greatly used in other areas recently are as follows:

Practical Life

Spreading
Fingernail Care
Line Stitching
Knot Tying
Polishing
Chair Scrubbing
Teeth Brushing
Teeth Flossing

Geography

World Map
North America
Land and Water Forms
Land, Air and Water

Math

1 to 10 Earth Counting
Teen Board
Snake Game
The Big Layout
Number Building
Bank Game
Bank Game with Exchange

Language

Matching
Opposites
Rhyming Objects and Cards
Alphabet with Sandpaper Letters
Beginning Sounds
Step Boards
Word Building
Spelling Boxes
Handwriting
Story Building

Sensorial

Rough/Smooth
Mystery Bags
Shape Matching
Geometric Solids
Two Color Matching
Smelling
Sound Cylinders

* Please note these are just a sampling of the many choices available on the classroom shelves.

“Wake Up Brain!”

Your children have also been practicing a series of learning readiness exercises. These exercises focus on strengthening the core muscles and integrating the right and left brain. Additionally, they help all the learning systems to function to their full potential. These sequential exercises complement the Montessori emphasis on the connection between movement and learning.

Thank You:

We would like to send out a “Thank you” to all of our parent helpers, for the time and energy they put forth to help us enhance your children’s learning experience. A special thanks goes out to: Stacey Hickey, Kim Stewart, Julie Billips, Kristen Thomason, and The DiDiego Family.

Also a very special thank you to Mrs. Moloney for filling in while Mrs. Crovo (a teacher in the AM class) recovered. We would also like to thank you for all your prayers, kind words, and concern for Mrs. Crovo while she was out of the classroom. We are elated to report that she has rejoined our team and will be easing back into our routine.

Upcoming Lessons:

Language- Four Letter Word Building and Middle and Ending Sounds

Math- Calendar, Large Works and Operations

Science- The Study of Birds, Botany Extensions, and Fall/Winter Studies

Geography- Parts of the Flag, South America and Cultural Baskets

Peace- Black Elk Story (found in the book *Nurturing the Spirit* by Aline Wolf), Giving Thanks, “You Are a Living Example” (song from the CD *Peace in the World*)

Practical Life- Button Sewing, Weaving, Banana Slicing, Grinding with a Mortar and Pestle

Sensorial- Tri-Nomial Cube, Geometric Solids, Holiday Scent Matching and Tasting

Friendly Reminders:

♥ The “For Small Hands” catalog that went home is a great place to find wonderful, quality Christmas gifts for your children. Our classroom receives a small portion of what you spend in credits to use on Montessori materials.

♥ Arrival time for the AM class is 8:15am. Arrival time for the PM class is 12:15pm. Please remember that class starts and lessons begin at those times. This is an important transition time for your child and entering the classroom late disrupts the ease and comfort of their day.

Communication:

Classroom II has a total of 45 children (43 families)! As a result, communication can be challenging. We have had many parental requests for an increase in school/home communication. We are excited by this interest and share your desire for another opportunity to exchange ideas and anecdotes. Therefore, beginning in late November, you will receive a bimonthly home phone call from one of Classroom II’s teachers. We hope this casual conversation will further encourage communication and build a stronger bond between home and school.

“We must help the child to act for himself, will for himself, think for himself; this is the art of those who aspire to serve the spirit of the child.”

Maria Montessori

We wish you a joyous and peaceful holiday season,

Mrs. Trotter
Mrs. Crovo
Mrs. Campbell
Mrs. Monarch
Mrs. DiDiego