



Arabian Classroom Newsletter



"The things he sees are not just remembered; they form a part of his soul."

Maria Montessori

Happy Reunions

All of the children have returned from winter break ready to dive back into the Montessori materials. Many children have been seeking new lessons and are lengthening their concentration. The depth of focus and engagement has been so high we have reduced our circle time before going outside to provide enough time for the children to complete their work cycle for the morning.



A second-year and third-year student working together on skip counting the short 8 chain.
Direct purpose: counting in groups larger than one. Indirect purpose: squaring and cubing.

It is a great source of pleasure to see the children return from break ready to engage with their own learning path and expand their horizons. They often return more capable and confident after a few weeks away from school.

New Materials



Our community has been blessed with new math materials! The children are excited to work with the fraction insets and the clock. While the Montessori math manipulatives are not always linear, there are prerequisites. Before working with numerals in the teens; a child must have a solid working understanding of tens, in quantity as well as numerals. This has inspired several children to get back into the teens board and master the necessary materials before moving on.



A first-year child making the move from the more concrete fraction skittles to the fraction insets. Direct purpose: helping the child acquire a sensory impression of fractions as well as exploring equivalencies in fractions.

Group Discussions

Before we went on winter break we had been working our way through the classification of animals. We focused on birds in November and Reptiles in December.



The children voted to move to mammals next. We have been exploring how animals; especially mammals, survive in the winter time. Our focus has been on hibernation, adaptation, and migration.

February and March will carry us through the remaining animal kingdoms with amphibians and insects. Come spring we should be ready to launch into a deep study of botany, plants, and life cycles.

Winter Wonders

The few cold snaps we have had led us on an exploration of what happens to water when it gets cold. The children have been learning about evaporation, condensation, and precipitation of the water cycle. In the coming weeks we will try our hand at some physical experiments to witness the wonder of water.

Nearly all of the children are independently zipping their winter coats. There is nothing better than practical life experience to provide learning opportunities!

Contributions

Thank you all for the provisions made to our community with the fresh flowers, food preparation, laundry washing, and donations for our celebrations. We are very blessed to have such generous families!!



Valentine's Day

The positive response from parents regarding the handmade Valentine's cards is exciting! I look forward to seeing all the effort and time that is going into each one of them.

We have 21 children in our community to make cards for.

We will have a shortened work cycle on Valentine's day to accommodate the time we need to pass out cards and eat our special snack provided by you wonderful parents.

We will begin decorating bags to put the cards in the week prior to Valentines.

