

HORSE ROOM – Morning Class February 2019

Geography is an important area of our classroom. The globe that the three year olds touch isolates the concepts of land and water. Our second globe is colored to show the continents. Even our youngest friends enjoy learning the names of these continents. Map making has become very popular in the as we begin learning more about the continents. When making the first map (the world map) the children learn the names of two continents each day and then use a pinning tool to “pin out” the continents. After making all seven continents, the child will glue the pieces on a paper to complete a map to bring home. It usually takes 3 years to complete all of the maps, but is an exciting accomplishment – Congratulations Seima!

We started our continent study with Antarctica and are finishing up Australia now. In February we will focus on places in Asia. We are trying to develop a global perspective of life on our earth. Studying world cultures invites the children to look beyond their own backyards. During our continent study we focus on anything the child finds interesting – festivals, food, flags, traditional dress, art, music, coins, or stories.

Math has also been a busy area of our classroom. Dr. Montessori knew that our civilization is based upon mathematics, from science and technology to music and art. Your children are enjoying working with our hands-on materials to get a good foundation and an understanding of numbers. They are allowed to learn by discovery rather than memorization. The knowledge then becomes their own. I posted some pictures of our horse Room friends using the spindle box, number rods, odd and even discs, the teen board, the multiplication board, and golden beads. Though your child may not be bringing home recordings of their work at this time, know that they are internalizing what they are touching.

VALENTINES DAY –We will be celebrating Valentine’s Day on Thursday, February 14th. We ask each child to bring in 21 valentine cards. The cards may be purchased or handmade. Your child should write his/her own name on each card, but DO NOT write the name of the recipients. Each child will make a “Mail Bag” at school to collect valentines in. At the end of the day, they will bring home a bag with a valentine from each friend in the morning class. We ask that you do not put candy in the valentines. (Candy will be removed and sent back home to you) Your child may share pencils or stickers, but cards are all that are needed. Please help us make this an exciting day of giving! Remember that you can usually purchase a box of a dozen cards at the dollar store, but the children are also free to make their own cards.

Julie Warren

Thank you all for contributing to our Food Drive. Our contribution to the Eastern Illinois Food Bank will be greatly appreciated.