

## **Horse Room – afternoon kindergarten**

October 2018

The afternoon class finished the introduction to directions. We learned about a compass and a compass rose. To celebrate our new knowledge, we followed directions on a treasure hunt! Ask your child about the good and bad parts of our treasure hunt.

Our geography unit is growing in the afternoon class. We began by walking around our Montessori neighborhood and creating a 3-D map of our neighborhood. Next we turned it into a flat map with symbols and a key. We talked about the difference between a map and a globe. Everyone drew a map of his or her home neighborhood. We put our maps together and found that all these neighborhoods make cities. Our classroom represents 4 cities (okay, one is a village) in Illinois. We discovered that all these cities put together make a state and that we all live in the same state – ILLINOIS!

We are now doing some research to find out what we can about our state. Your child should be able to tell you a new fact or two about Illinois each day. So far we know the state insect, fish, amphibian, reptile, bird, and mammal. The children enjoyed sharing what they already knew about the animal kingdom. Each day we enjoy group lessons, and practice writing, coloring, and following directions.

We are reading our first non-fiction chapter book. It is about the life of Abraham Lincoln. If you were looking for something to do some Saturday, this would be a great month to plan a trip to Springfield or New Salem. Your child could then report back to us! Or maybe you could go on a scavenger hunt in Urbana to find a statue of Abraham Lincoln. (Hint: Race Street).

In Spanish we have worked on colors, shapes, animals, days of the week, and numbers to 30. We have been learning animals in sign language as well. This week we will begin learning ways to answer the question *cómo estás?*

Julie Warren

