



HAPPENINGS

18323 Kuykendahl Rd, Spring TX 77379

Telephone (281) 370-6100

www.cypresswoodmontessori.com

Volume 8

March 2010

"By giving a large part of the educative work to nature itself... it is necessary to have the child exposed to the vivifying forces of nature..." - Maria Montessori

Continued...

Expressing Anger - What's appropriate and effective? - by Bill Thompson

Expression: The healthiest way to deal with anger is to express it appropriately. Typically, this is done with "I" statements. For ex. "I feel angry when I see mud tracked in on the floor." This is different from criticizing or blaming someone else by saying: "See what you did! You tracked in mud!" If no other person is involved, anger may be expressed to a trusted friend. Instead of throwing blocks, for example, Johnny could have expressed his anger to the teacher. Ideally, the teacher would listen and acknowledge the feeling without judging. Comments like "You shouldn't get angry" can worsen the situation. Before expressing anger, many people, including children, need time to think through what to say. The goal is to avoid saying something that will raise tension and cause regret. It helps to focus on solutions rather than on the inflaming incident. Some people like to inject a little humor, as long as it's not sarcastic or belittling.

Helping children deal with emotions

Teaching children to deal effectively with their emotions is a complex task that changes as developmental needs change. Toddlers, for example, often display anger or have tantrums when they test the limits of behavior. They learn acceptable behavior as a result of adults consistently enforcing boundaries (*Texas Child Care 2009*).

Classroom News:

Our Infants are understanding verbal instructions such as: "time to eat", so they gather around the table to sit, "time to go outside", so they line up and wait for the door to open, "lets read a book", so they all come and sit on the floor, "nap time", they wait for the music and go to the nap area. Children are very well behaved in taking turns and sharing their work, also their vocabulary increases constantly with words like: book, ball, sister, banana, more, thank you, kiss, bye bye, down, up, open, close, etc, etc.. We love to watch our infants growing so fast.



Brooklynn, Lily, and Natalia are busy reading books

Our Toddlers learned about community helpers and worked on opposites. We exchanged Valentine's card and our shape was heart and our colors were red, pink and purple. We will be focusing on the color green and our shape will be shamrock. We will be discussing the rodeo (horses, boots, etc.) and Texas. We will be planting seeds. If you have a clear empty juice jar (apple, grape, orange) please bring it in. We will be using these for planting seeds.

Classroom News Cont...

Our Pre-Primary I class had lots of fun singing song and doing Valentine projects like making Valentine butterflies, baskets and gifts. In the month of March Pre-Primary I will be introduced to all the community helpers and their contributions to the society. We will talk about what they would like to be when they grow up and will be encouraged to imagine and act out different community helpers. We will also introduce machines which will be integrated with songs and finger play, art and dramatics. We will also talk about St. Patrick's Day and Easter.



Ms. Anila working with Cate Douglas

Our Pre-Primary II class had a classroom election, and the majority of the children decided Luca would make the best President. Luca said that he wanted to help clean up the Earth. Jordan was elected as Vice President and he wanted to help the animals.



Luca as President and Jordan as Vice President. Way to go!!

With our colors curriculum in Pre-Primary II children got to observe how colors can change by mixing the colors. We got to see a wooden spinner with pie-shaped wedges in alternating colors of primary colors. When the spinner spins the colors get mixed into secondary colors e.g. yellow and red equals orange. Children had fun designing a wooden spinner to take home. Color Science is COOL!! Flip Flop (handicapped butterfly) was a migratory Monarch Butterfly (Born in the winter). Every fall, tens of millions of monarch butterflies travel up to 3,000 miles in their migration and make their way to central Mexico and that west of the Rockies fly to the California Coast. You can help them by planting milkweed plants in your yard. Milkweed is Monarch larvae's only food source. Our beloved Flip Flop passed away on February 23. She lived a long 3 months with our loving care. We all said goodbye and gave her a funeral in our school planter. We all will really miss her. 😞



Ariana with our beloved Flip Flop

Is your child on the road to reading?

To find out how your child is developing as a reader, use the Reading Checkups at www.aap.org/family/readmeastory.htm. The checkup guide begins at age 2 and continues through third grade- from picture pointing to independent reading. At each stage, you will answer questions to evaluate your child's progress, discover ways to foster the reading process, and learn about types of books to use with your child. Use the checkups as a doctor might use a growth chart. Even if your child is in preschool or primary school, you are encouraged to begin with the first stage and work forward. The checkup guide was developed by Reading Is Fundamental, the nation's oldest and largest literacy organization. Its primary goal is to motivate children to read. RIF volunteers give donated books to millions of children through community organizations. -Texas Child Care.