

Welcome to Liberty Montessori's Weekly Newsletter.

It provides timely information and highlights the learning taking place across all classrooms. ICONS (see below) are used to distinguish our distinct Montessori classrooms: Dragonflies and Ladybugs, as well as Early Childhood (PreK 3,4,5 and Kindergarten 6): Butterflies.

Please look for these ICONS to identify the classroom and learning children were exposed to this week!



In the month of December, the educational focus is on winter.

All Classrooms

- Care of environment/ self
- Winter theme

Only Butterflies & Ladybugs

- Strengthening pencil grip
- Reinforcing reading
- Intro to Artic continents, & winter animals.

The Show and Tell Project



December

Dec 20th

Free choice



LIBERTY The Place for Learning
MONTESSORI

THE VIEW

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

@ 201-985-8745



Dear Valued Parents,

We truly appreciate those parents who took time to say thank you, reflecting on Liberty Montessori's preparedness in the face of Jersey City Police Department's mandated lockout. Y/our children's caretakers did an outstanding job, followed our school's lockdown policy, and kept y/our children safe and unaware of the reprehensible and tragic events that occurred in the Greenville section of Jersey City, NJ this past Tuesday, December 10, 2019.

The world my grandparents experienced in the United States has changed a lot but, in some ways, not so much. Some of your parents may recall the precursors to lockdowns: fallout and bomb shelters. While it saddens me that we have yet to figure this out, I believe it is essential to reject the notion of fear.

Instead I strive to follow Maria's teachings, and create responsive, prepared environments that cultivate in our children resilience, compassion and critical emotional intelligence. Foundations matter in all aspects of life! That is one reason why I chose to open a Montessori early education facility.

The Canadian Council of Montessori Administrators explains what the **Montessori Learning Environment** includes:

- **A Child-Centered Environment** [is one where] the focus of activity is on the child's learning, **not on the teacher's teaching.**
- **A Responsive, Prepared, Adaptive Environment** is both prepared in advance of the children's entry into it and continues to be responsive to the children's needs and evolving interests, as well as their changing circumstances. Nurturing is a critical aspect of the Toddler environment.
- **Individual Competence** is nurtured, and children strive to realize their own potential, and are provided with opportunities for problem solving and mastering their own skills at their own pace.

In partnership,
Ivonne Barreras

Practical Life *News*

Develops gross and fine motor skills. Prepares children for writing and builds independence and responsibility.
Supports the development of order and concentration.

This takes place in all classrooms in a developmentally appropriate manner.

Please follow all the icons to see samples of work happening in our children's rooms.

Dressing up the snowman



Cutting an apple



Tweezing



Snowman making



Standing



Carrying an item



Tong transferring

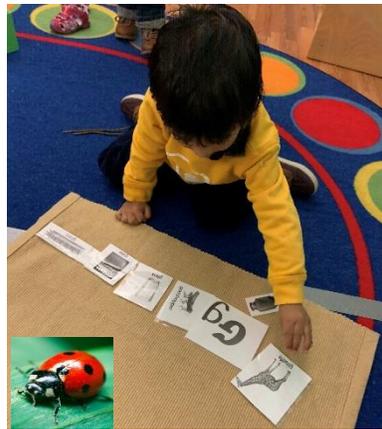


Letters

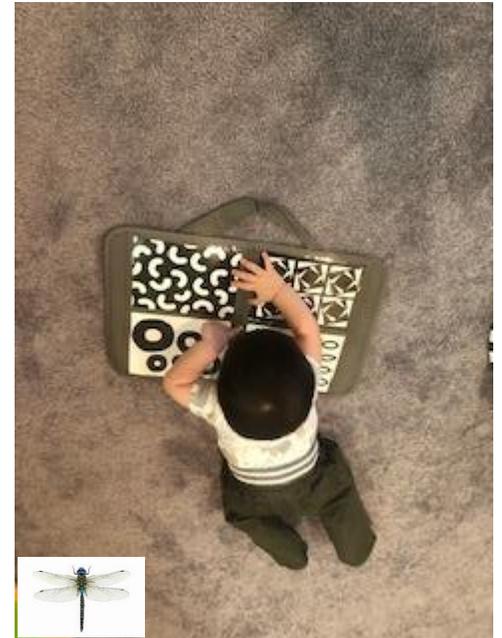
The Ladybugs learned the sound of the letter G makes by doing an object matching sound to symbol activity. This activity will enhance visual development, letter identification & eye / hand coordination.



Language News



Tracing shapes



Classifications



Long a

Reinforcing sounds
Advanced reading



Beginning sounds with pictures

Reinforcing sounds



Sensorial News

Math News

Snowflake / lights matching

- Order
- Independence
- Visual & touch sense
- Concentration



Matching of the numbers Quantity 1-5

Sandpaper Numbers

Tracing numbers 0-9
Reinforcing pencil grip

Knobless cylinders

The Knobless Cylinders are designed to help children in making distinctions in their immediate environment. This material primarily engages the senses of touch and sight.

Source:
Informontessori.com

Addition Strip Board

The addition strip board is one method used by students to assist them in their abstract memorization of addition facts up to 18. While the materials are somewhat abstract, the process is still concrete.

Source:
Informontessori.com



Tens board

The tens board reinforces quantity & numbers 10-99.



Geography News

The world continent map



South America



Science News

Parts of a penguin



Parts of a horse



Trees

This week, the Butterflies were introduced to Christmas trees. They learned that putting up a Christmas tree is a Christmas tradition that began in Germany and that is mostly followed by people in all continents. As of one of their work choices, the Butterflies choose to decorate a tree with ornaments. They also learned about different types of trees.



Part of a Poinsettia

On December 12th, the Butterflies celebrated Poinsettia Day by wearing red, reading the legend of the poinsettia and learning the parts of the poinsettia. They had a fabulous time.



STEAM @ LIBERTY MONTESSORI



Meet the Robots!

The Butterflies became acquainted with various robots in addition to those we have already worked with through demonstration and play.



Workshop News

Yoga



Chess

Chess develops problem solving skills. Chess improves your memory. Chess is a great 3D game and exercises both parts of the brain.



Kindness

This week, the children discussed about the different actions of kindness and how we can apply these actions in our daily routine.





Show & Tell

On Friday December 6th, for show and tell I brought my favorite.



Purpose of show and tell:

1. Develop presentation skills
2. Practice preparing for a project
3. Early development of public speaking skills.

Parents thank you for helping your child prepare for this important activity!

REMINDERS

1. SHOW & TELL WEEKLY

(ONLY IN THE BUTTERFLY CLASSROOM)

12/20th free choice

2. DECEMBER 19TH HOLIDAY POTLUCK & BOOK EXCHANGE

A. BOOKS ARE DUE

MONDAY DECEMBER 16, 2019

3. UGLY SWEATER FRIDAY DECEMBER 20, 2019