



**The Cows/Ha Peleem
August 22nd - August 26th, 2011**

Dear Parents,

We want to warmly welcome each child in our care and their family to the start of an exciting school year here at Torah Tots.

We really enjoyed our home visits with you and felt welcomed by all your family members including the pets- we are animal lovers.

As we are at the very beginning, much of our time spent will be to help the children with routines and schedules. We are also looking at preparing them for the many fun and enriching activities that they will be involved with like music and gym.

The classroom belongs to the children and it is our responsibility to carefully prepare the environment to be inviting with many activities to develop independence, gross and fine motor skills. Other activities will help to develop language and pre-literacy skills along with critical thinking and positive socialization abilities and much more.

Together with you as parents, we are entered into a partnership to nurture and guide your child's growth and development. Please know that we are here for you when you have questions or concerns and also that we appreciate your support in this process.

Math:

- counted numbers on our calendar
- counted the boys and the girls
- wrote an addition sentence showing the count for the boys and girls and the sum
- identified a triangle and discussed the attributes

-took a vote for our class animal, with the "cow" winning the most votes

Literacy:

-beginning to "read" our classroom signs and labels like for centers such as Science and Computer

-read story, "Sammy Spider's First Day at School", which emphasizes the theme that we should love and care for all of the animals on our planet. This was explained as a "Mitzvah"- a good deed

Science:

-demonstrated an experiment to show how germs are spread using red paint on the hand of a pretend sneeze, shaking this hand passed around more red paint...very effective!

Gross Motor:

-our wonderful playground got lots of action with running, climbing and riding various styles of bikes

-inside we did the Chicken Dance song which made the children laugh and move as the verses repeated and increased in tempo

Fine Motor:

-many opportunities were available to practice and reinforce the development of the prehensile grasp and eye-hand coordination such as peg like activities and interlocking shapes as well as puzzles

-art related, the children applied water colors using eye droppers to decorate their own kippot, they really enjoyed this

-the children also used sponge stamps to decorate their Shabbat placemat

Social-Self Help:

-establish routines

-created classroom rules

-modeled and practiced good manners

-used word to express needs

-used words to express kindness to friends

Judaic:

-we ended the week celebrating Shabbat

-we say blessings before lunch and snack

-daily we count to ten in Hebrew

-Hebrew words we are learning, afo-where is, lo po-not here, ani po-here, boker tov-good morning, chaverim-friends

With Our Sincere Appreciation:

Thank you to the Malacheem for bringing in delicious snacks for the class.

Our school is part of the Funding Factory. As members of this organization, we collect empty ink cartridges and old cell phones. When we send these items in, our school earns points towards the purchase of materials such as CD's and other equipment. Please help with this program by collecting the needed items from family and friends and donating them to our school. Thank you.

Shabbat Shalom,

Morah Sheri and Morah Fran