



**The Cows/Ha Parot
Nov 7-11, 2011**

A Family

What is a family?
Who is a family?
One and another makes two is a family!
Baby and father and mother: a family!
Parents and sister and brother: a family!

What is a family?
Who is a family?
Either a lot or a few is a family;
But whether there's ten or there's or there's two in your family,
All of your family plus you is a family!

The Cow/Par-ot class has been very busy having fun exploring, discussing and participating in many activities about being part of a family. We were happy to extend this theme to all the special grandparents and want to thank them for coming to Grandparents Shabbat on Friday.

Developing Skills

Math

We continue to practice number recognition, sequence and counting with the help of the daily calendar activities. We counted the children to take attendance and use the property of addition to combine the boys and the girls. We helped the children to count the number of family members in their home and we also counted to include their pets and group them by dogs, cats, etc.

Literacy

The children enjoyed lots of stories and found the following books about family relationships to be their favorites: Fathers, Mothers, Sisters, Brothers, A Collection of Family Poems by Mary Ann Hoberman, Brothers and Sisters by Ellen B. Senisi and A Grandma Like Yours/ A Grandpa Like Yours by Andria Warmflash Rosenbaum.

During our group times, we discussed who lives in their house with them and what other family members they have that come to visit or that they visit and we compared what was the same and different between the class of children.

We talked about our grandparents and wrote a literacy chart from the question, "What is something special that you like to do with your grandparents?" We had lots of participation for this activity.

Science

We talked about weather conditions and that some families live in other climates and what that means for them such as needing different clothes and also about what activities they might do together as a family.

We also read a book about a rainbow and talked about the weather conditions for a rainbow to appear and the colors that make up a rainbow.

Gross Motor

The children had a great session in gym class with Miss Alyssa this week. They practiced stretching their muscles to prepare for the yoga cobra pose which looked like the letter C. They also used a soft bat and had to concentrate to move their ball around colored rings on the floor. They did a great job.

Miss Beth in music class really helps with listening skills while the children have fun using various instruments. This week she used large drums which really appeals to 3 year olds.

Fine Motor

The children are finding more creative ways to use the materials in the art center and they are getting better with cutting and using drawing utensils and they are expressing more language to describe their experiences.

They have also been cutting out pictures of people to represent their family members and gluing them on paper as they talked about their feelings.

Social-Self Help

The children are getting better with the morning routine to unpack their backpacks and follow the sequence to start their day. At snack and lunch times, they are willing to try opening containers and to clean up.

We are also seeing progress with the children using words to express their feelings with each other.

Judaic

We started the week with Havdalah , coming together as a school and getting us off to a good beginning.

We were so happy to have this week's Shabbat as a special time to invite our grandparents and to see all the children and their grandparents having a wonderful time after doing the special project to make a personalized keychain with their grandchild's picture.

Study Words: family-mispacha, father-Abba, mother--Imma, sister-achot, brother-ach, grandma-savta, grandpa-saba.

Thank you for visiting the school book fair and showing your support to purchase books for your family and for the classrooms!

Reminders:

- Please bring in empty ink cartridges and cell phones as we are part of the Funding Factory.
- Don't forget to wear your school shirt on Friday for Shabbat and please bring Tzekedah!
- Come join us on Monday, November 21st for our school wide Thanksgiving Experience, starting at 9:45 a.m.
- Please continue to send in those Campbell soup labels!!!!

Shabbat Shalom,
Morah Fran and Morah Jacki