

The Dogs / Ha Klaveem  
Week of February 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, 2012



We want to take this opportunity to thank each and every parent that attended Dads 'n Donuts on Monday. We enjoyed having you; it was a great way to start our week. This week we were studying facts about the Solar System. First, we had a general look at our galaxy. Then we learned more specific information about the Sun, Mercury, Venus and we ended the week with planet Earth. Ask your children to share some of these facts and vocabulary with you.

Words: Atmosphere, crust, mantle, core.

**Math:**

Children are experimenting with toys at different centers while they expand their math skills like counting, matching, seriation, classification and patterning.

- Counted the days of the week and the months of the year.
- Used words to describe how far or close the planets are from the sun.
- Counted coins and bills in the Tzedakah box.
- Estimation Jar: We guessed how many pencil sharpeners were in it. Thanks Sloane for bringing them for us to take home!

**Literacy:**

We read "The Solar System" by Jeff Bauer, "The Sun" by Justin McCory, "Mercury" by Adele Richardson, "Venus" by Adele Richardson, and "Earth" by Adele Richardson.

We played interactive reading games on the computer. Children are practicing how to solve problems and challenges as they learn. The children are showing more interest in exploring computer games and manipulating objects on the screen.

- Chose letter “Rr” for the Loving Letter activity that we will carry on until next week.
- Reader of the Day: From now on every day after lunch, a child will have the chance to read age appropriate books or will tell a story about the pictures on the book to the rest of the class.

### **Science:**

Children are becoming more aware of the changes happening during this time of the year. This week we talked about the different temperature and appearance on the three planets we studied so far.

#### **Science Update:**

The tiny green tomato is growing up every day, the tomato seeds we planted weeks ago are now sprouts and we were able to find similarities with the tomato plant that holds the green tomato.

### **Gross Motor:**

Children are being motivated to enjoy their time in the indoor gym and on the playground. These are excellent opportunities to foster their large muscle development.

- Ms. Alisa taught us new yoga poses: “F” for fish and flower and we play softball and ran bases.
- We are encouraging team games and cooperative play at the block center and on the playground.
- On Thursday, Ms Holly explored yoga poses relate to nature. Some of the poses were called rock, mountain, volcano, tree, flowing river. Along with these stretching exercises we practice breathing and posture techniques.

### **Fine Motor:**

The children represented their thoughts and observations drawing, writing, cutting pasting to create planet books. The children are also strengthening their small muscles

as they build castles, scoop and dig with the tools. Additionally, the conversations that come from this interaction are very entertaining.

- We worked on decorating the pages for our planet books.
- On Tuesday we had a section of our day to write neatly in our official journal.
- We smashed and molded homemade play-doh every day at center time.

### **Social/Self Help:**

We had many chances to discuss as a class what is to be honest, how to be safe in the classroom and how to resolve problems without hurting our friends' feelings.

- Practicing pouring drinks, opening lunch, passing out cups and napkins.
- Encouraging independence and being fair.
- Learning how to solve conflict in a respectful manner.
- Reviewed classroom rules, especially rule # 7 "Keep inside voices when we are in the classroom".

### **Judaic:**

- Cantor Zack practiced songs in Hebrew and English for the upcoming holiday, Purim.
- Attended Shabbat on Friday.
- Sang Hatikvah every morning at Shalom Time.
- Recited the blessings before and after every meal.
- Names of the body parts, numbers and color words in Hebrew are being integrated into the daily routine.

### **Reminders:**

- Please send your child in with a labeled kosher snack every day.
- Do not forget to recycle all your empty ink cartridges and old cell phones. We will collect them for our Funding Factory fundraiser. We are also participants of the Campbell Labels fundraiser program, save them and bring them over!

- Please help us collect new pajamas for infants, children and adolescents. This is a PJ Library program. And if you have not signed up for the PJ Library program yet, it is not too late!
- Torah Tots PTO will be glad to have you as a volunteer for the upcoming events.

Save the date:

- Purim Carnival and Play Thursday March 8th.

Thanks to Max and Eli for bringing in delicious snacks for Shabbat.

Shabbat Shalom!

Morah Debbie & Morah Carolina