



## WEEKLY RECAP

NATURE IMMERSION

**NEXT TUESDAY IS SCARECROW DAY! COME DRESSED AS A SCARECROW!**



10/14-10/18

## **FREE EXPLORATION:**

This week students explored different ways to celebrate fall. We made a scarecrow out of pine needles and talked about the purpose of a scarecrow. Students had the idea to plant corn throughout the play space and talked about how big corn grew. We understand that the scarecrows purpose is to protect crops like corn and wheat by scaring birds and other animals away so they don't eat them. Students explored our new fort that was created with bamboo sticks, strings, and fabric. Students thought it was a climbing structure at first, we put fabric over it and are still exploring what we can do with the fort. Another one of our provocations was the outdoor office. Students spent time "working" with the laptops and taking notes with paper and pencils. Students explored laptops, scanners, and dvd players. This was an opportunity for them to talk about different jobs that use laptops, exposure to print, and encouraging early literacy with writing their notes.

## **MORNING MEETING:**

Students collectively talked about what we see during fall. Students understand that pumpkins have many purposes such as making food, carving jack-o-lanterns, making pumpkin volcanoes, and decomposing to feed our soil. We read stories about Halloween and scarecrows to celebrate fall. We also celebrated Desmond's 5th birthday! We found a tree frog this week and used morning meeting to observe the frog and its' characteristics. We wondered where he lives, what he eats, and how we can replicate his habitat. Other students had questions about

## **ATELIER:**

Students are working independently on their own self interest art this week. We really focused on becoming familiar with what materials we want to use, how to use them, and put them back when we're finished. Students enjoyed using glue for their art but typically gluing to paper. We encouraged students to find different purposes for the glue; glueing different materials together to create something bigger off of the paper.

## **INDOOR EXPLORATION:**

Indoor time is a direct preparation for academics and the traditional "school settings." This week we continued helping students work on their strengths and challenges . In our Portuguese lessons, educators are noticing great process on their understanding of languages . We actually heard a few students singing songs in Portuguese.

## **SENSORY EXPERIENCES:**

This week students explored shaving cream on their hands, arms, and faces. We initially used the shaving cream to trace words, using our fingers as learning tools. Students found different purposes for the shaving cream; using it as ice cream, lotion, and as actual shaving cream! Some of our students put the shaving cream on their face and we pretended to be shaving like their dads. We used a nature walk as a sensory experience this week; noticing what we saw, smelled, and heard around our school. Students found palm fronds and branches to bring back to the class. We noticed red and green berries as well as different plants that we do not have in the classroom.

## **YOGA & MINDFULNESS:**

Students continued picking yoga poses and challenging themselves to more difficult poses. Over time, students have developed balance and coordination to successfully do poses that were once challenging such as airplane pose and warrior poses. We listened to I am Yoga to begin our yoga practice and calm our bodies.

## **GARDENING:**

This week we planted sunflowers in the food forest, worked on the sensory garden, and added herbs to our mud kitchen. Our herbs include mint, peppermint, and oregano. We are planning to plant vines and letting them grow over the fort. Students are keeping their corn sprouts safe throughout our play space and working on independently planting their seeds. We noticed that the caterpillar eggs are being eaten by lizards, we are working to transfer them to keep them safe!

## **AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES:**

Our afternoons this week were spent mostly inside due to the weather . Students explored and worked on puzzles, letters sounds, quantities , power of ten , and many more different subjects that they are currently interested on exploring . For instance, a few students are increasingly becoming interested in continents and planets . We have been exploring the globe almost daily and that is one of the