

# Montessori Beginnings Newsletter

March 2014

## School News:

It is re-enrollment time! Re-enrollment forms will be going out at the end of this week. Remember enrollment is on a first come first served basis so get your forms back, asap. Thank you in advance for your support.

## Dates to Remember:

- Mark your Calender for the first annual **Winter Wind-down Extravaganza**. March 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 6:00 'til ?...Please R.S.V.P. by March 12<sup>th</sup>.
- No school on March 13<sup>th</sup> for a Teacher In-Service Day. The teachers will be going to visit other Montessori School to do observations.

## Montessori Quote of the Month...

"Montessori is an education of independence, preparing not just for school but for life."

--Maria Montessori



## This Month's Birthdays

### Toddler one

Grace S. will be two.

### Preschool

Izzie will be five  
Rosie will be five  
Ella M. will be three  
Ariel will be four



# Toddler one Room news

March, the month that "Comes in like a Lion, out Like a Lamb." With March being such a changeable month, in which we can see warm spring-like temperatures or late-season snowstorms, you can understand how this saying might hold true. We can only hope if March starts off cold and stormy, it will end warm and sunny!

**Language:** We continue with our winter animal cards during circle time. Also we will continue to model peace and kindness; using words such as "gentle, please, thank you," and asking friends "are you ok?" A poster of children's faces displaying different emotions is posted in the room and we will read stories about dealing with emotions throughout the month.

We focus on the secondary colors of purple, green and orange with an activity picture card work and numerous color books. Also we will have a wall mounted purple, orange and green color tubes/pom-pom matching work (fun-fun).

**Sensorial table:** We will still explore rough and smooth textures such as pasta, loofah, and sandpaper, yarn, felt and the table's edge. We will also be using the texture "touch boards".

**Practical Life:** The young toddlers will continue with works such as scooping beans into an egg carton, pouring colored water pitcher to pitcher, and cleaning up after snack and lunch. Shelves will also include matching, scooping kidney beans, and colored water pitcher to pitcher pouring work.

**Fine Motor:** This month's work includes puzzles, stacking blocks, posting straws into a mason- jar, using play dough as well as chalk on the chalk board. These activities will help with control and coordinating small muscles of the wrist and hand.

**Gross Motor:** We will be using our indoor climber, outdoor play (weather permitting), dancing and marching to music. The balance beam will help the toddlers with their coordination.

**Self-help skills:** We continue getting ourselves dressed for winter weather. Also, we continue perfecting eating and drinking with utensils, cleaning up after snack and lunch, pushing in our chairs and rolling up our work rugs (work rugs help to delineate space to keep children from stepping on each other's work).

**Art:** Paint and decorate a Dr. Seuss hat and make sandpaper-yarn pictures.

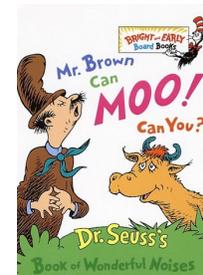
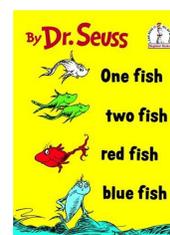
## Song of the Month

### "5 Little Shamrocks"

Five little shamrocks growing outdoors,  
Lilly picked one and then there were four.  
Four little shamrocks green as they can be,  
Ethan picked one and then there were three.  
Three little shamrocks playing peek-a-boo,  
Grace picked one and then there were two.  
Two little shamrocks nodding in the sun,  
Isabella picked it and that left one.  
One little shamrock for St. Patrick's Day fun,  
Jameson and Halle picked it and then there were none.



## Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss!



# T o d d l e r t w o r o o m n e w s

This month we continue our peace curriculum by learning about kindness, turn taking and getting along with each other. We will celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday with a fun project.

**Practical Life:** A new twisting work using large wooden bolts and screws, pouring from small pitchers, tweezing pompoms into a star shape tray and scooping green stones will be some of the practical life works featured this month. The children will also be scrubbing the animals from this month's read-aloud books: bear, hippo and mouse.

**Language:** This month we will focus on the letters "H" and "C". For the letter "H" we will have a basket of objects to explore that start with this letter and for the letter "C" we will have a drawstring mystery bag with items that start with the letter "C". Some of the other works: go-together cards, alphabet puzzle, and open-shut boxes with pictures of animals' expressions. The teachers will ask the children, "What do they think the animal is feeling in the picture?"

**Sensorial/Math:** a posting cube work, matching secondary colors with items, a clover one to one correspondence work along with a harder knobbed cylinder work.

**Cooking:** We will be making baking soda bread and juicing green veggies.

**Art:** a Dr. Seuss inspired project and working on the upcoming art show.

**Peace Curriculum:** The children will do a social activity by singing the "no"- "yes" song which will help the children to develop assertiveness in a positive way. The children will continue to learn about feelings and self expression, by labeling what they are feeling and re-directing their actions in a more appropriate way.



## Song of the Month

### HAPPY

Tune: "BINGO"

There was a fellow, that I know, who  
was happy all the time-o.  
H-A-P-P-Y, H-A-P-P-Y, H-A-P-P-Y, he  
was happy all the time-O.

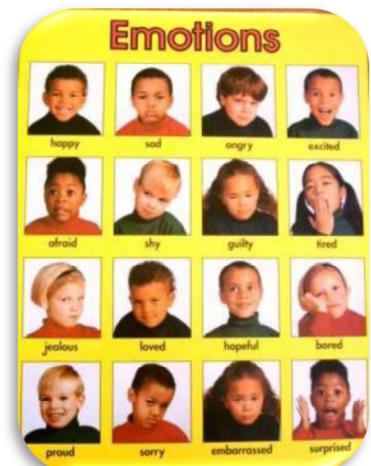
*Continue with other emotions, which  
have five letters, such as Angry or  
Tired*

## Books of the Month

Mouse says "Sorry"

Hippo says "Excuse Me"

Bear Says "Thank you" by  
Michael Dahl



# Preschool room News



Top O' the Mornin'! We will be traveling to Ireland and will be learning about our families this month. The children will continue to work on their peace curriculum. We will be role modeling grace and courtesy lessons. We have been reading a book called *Shades of People*, by Shelia Kelly and Shelly Rotner. The children have been fascinated by the shades of our skin. We will be doing some discussion on diversity and an art project using multicultural crayons.

**Lessons given this month during morning meeting:** a diversity egg lesson, rhyming words, banana slicing, learning the *Continent Song*.

**Practical life:** the shelves will host many works with a green or yellow theme in honor of St. Patrick's Day. We will be scooping green and white stones, scrubbing potatoes, making a rainbow using tweezers and beads, sticking golf tees into a Styrofoam shamrock then balancing marbles on them.

**Science Center:** We will be learning about the last two senses, taste and touch. We will be having a tasting of bitter, sweet, sour, and salty items. And have the touch boards and texture work will be available. The sensory bin will have split peas, gnomes, gold coins and shamrocks which the children can scoop using three different size spoons. We will be studying birds this month in the hopes of spring coming soon. There is bird matching and we will also learn how to care for our outside friends.

**Geography:** This area will contain the traveling suitcase with items from Ireland. Coloring the Irish flag and matching pictures from Ireland will be available. We will also focus on children of the world and where they live.

**Language:** The fourth language box will be introduced. This is Dr. Seuss month. The children will be doing several works with a Dr. Seuss theme: rhyming words using pockets, for a *Wocket in your Pocket*, a word to picture matching focusing on the short letter sound "o", a word family work for *The Cat in the Hat*, leprechaun("L") and shamrock("S") writing pages and several Dr. Seuss worksheets will be offered in the language drawers.

**Math/Sensorial:** Dr. Seuss will even show up here, with a one to one counting work for *One Fish Two Fish*. To entice some of our car enthusiasts, we have added a car matching – numbered parking space work (drive the right car into the correct numbered parking space). In the sensorial area we will introduce another shape box and show the children how the knobless cylinders fit into the knobbed cylinder work. A one to one birdhouse work will also be available.

**Art:** We will be working on another project for our portfolios and art show (shhh...it's a secret). We will make a Dr. Seuss inspired craft and a leprechaun trap (we hear our pal, Liam is back again this year). We will finger paint paper on the easel, floor and table.

**Peace Curriculum:** we will share family photos and make our friendship necklaces we did not do last month. The children will be picking a name from our labeled craft sticks then will make a necklace for that child. We will have a necklace presentation during morning meeting.

# Preschool March Menu

3 Poodle of Noodles With veggies and Cheese and Fruit	4 Poodle of Noodles With veggies and Cheese and Fruit	5 Bring their own	6 Bring their own	7 Bring their own
10 Goldfish Sandwiches Fruit and veggies	11 Goldfish sandwiches Fruit and veggies	12 Bring their own	13 In Service No School!	14 Bring their own
17 Ham/Irish soda bread/fruit and veggies  	18 Ham/Irish soda bread/fruit and veggies	19 Bring their own	20 Bring their own	21 Bring their own
24 Pizza/veggies/fruit	25 Pizza/veggies/fruit	26 Bring their own	27 Bring their own	28 Bring their own



A person's  
a person,  
no matter  
how small.

Dr. Seuss

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