



Montessori Children's Garden

Summer 2017 - June

Ms. Emily's little class has been learning about frogs and circuitry the past few weeks. They watched the tadpoles, played with toys in a frog habitat, fed the frog using tweezers. They measured how far they could jump. The Frog Princess was read and the children were encouraged to dictate their own frog princess story. They had a frog tongue demonstration using sticky hand toy and sang some popular frog songs. They learned about completing a circuit, testing what conducts electricity, and putting together a flashlight.

Ms. Cathy's class has been studying pollinators and flowers, as well as math in nature. The children especially enjoyed pretending to be a bee and getting cheeto "pollen" on the bees legs. The children learned about ways to help pollinators and why it is important for our food chain. Mrs. Jones came and talked to the children about the Fibonacci numbers (growing patterns) in nature and they were then invited to choose any of the works from the shelf.

Ms. Kat's Garden

The children picked the cherries from the tree outside one day and then made cherry pie. They also cut up dill and made flavored croutons. They went on a bug hunt and started some flower from seed. Pizza was on the menu one day and the children cut onions and peppers to put on the pizza.

Mr. Ben's and Ms. Keely's

were trapping minnows in the creek and nibbling on wild edibles. They have been collecting rain data and making hypotheses. They have been learning about insects and how to engineer simple structures. Tadpoles are thriving and getting froggy green and growing legs. Jack J. brought in a toad to show the class. Field trips to Beaver Kreek and the library have been very popular. They spent one day playing in the sprinklers here at school when the weather was a little unstable.

Ms. Tina's class learned all about snakes and the elements of design in art and nature. They learned the parts of a snake, what snakes eat and how, shedding their skin, patterns, camouflage and the habitats that they live in. They identified the snakes that live in Iowa. They learned about the elements of design, lines, angled lines, curved lines, circles and dots. Preston brought in a snake skin to show the class. In group time, they practiced various moves, like slithering and sidwiding. They also used instruments to mimic rattlesnakes. They read the books Kali and the Rat Snake and Cyrus the Unsinkable Sea Serpent.

Openings

We have a few full day spots left for the fall session and afternoon

preschool spots as well. Tell your friends and neighbors!

Announcements

We follow the DHS guidelines for heat index in determining whether the children can go outside and for how long. We also have water available at all times throughout the day.

Quotable Quotes

The children were filing by the office when we heard one child say to another, "He's pretty sweet but sometimes he punches me in the face."

A child was counting some objects in the classroom and said, "My mouth beat my fingers when I was counting."

A child told a teacher one day, "My mom can do something you can't do". Teacher responds, "Oh, really. What's that?" Child responds, "She can yell at me real loud".

The children were all gathered around a big tub looking at a toad. The toad is frantically trying to get out and a child says, "He's really excited to be here."

Check out the **Iowa River Landing Wetlands**, located behind the Marriott in Coralville. There is a path and observation deck to view all of the wildlife. You can observe bullfrogs, fish, ducks, turtles and even an eagle nest