



## Moving forward to May, our children will explore and learn Fruit & Vegetables



In particular, we will focus on the following topics:

1. Common fruit and vegetables
2. Why should we eat fruit and vegetables?
3. What are the differences between fruit and vegetables?

### Character Education – Compassion

In May, our children will learn about compassion, one of the core values our school holds dear. According to Merriam Webster, Compassion is “sympathetic consciousness of others’ distress together with a desire to alleviate it.” Simply put, being compassionate means to be sympathetic, and try to do things to make others feel better.

### Cultural Occasions

1. May 3<sup>rd</sup> to May 7<sup>th</sup>: Teacher Appreciation week
2. Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, Mother’s Day
3. Memorial Day, Monday, May 31<sup>st</sup> (School is closed)

### Birthday Celebrations

We are excited to celebrate three birthdays in May!

1. Tuesday May 4<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Katherine’s birthday
2. Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, Daniela’s 4<sup>th</sup> birthday
3. Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, William’s 5<sup>th</sup> birthday



## Looking back in April, our children had so much fun getting familiar with: Mother Earth!

First, we learned that earth is the third out of the eight planets in the solar system. Thrilled by the marvelous universe, our little children created their own solar system during their art project.



We all love mother earth and want to make our planet a much more beautiful place. On Earth Day- Thursday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, we walked to the Lake Cunningham Park and picked up a great deal of trash. We are so proud of our children who understand that we need to protect mother earth and that together, we can make a difference!

We also delved into the structure of earth. In order to make it more vivid and tangible for our little ones to understand, we used play dough to make layers of earth:



- Crust: brown
- Mantle: red
- Outer core: orange
- Inner core: yellow

There was so much excitement in the air during this process! Everyone was fully engaged and very proud of themselves once their “earth” was made! We then cut through the earth Ms. Sierra had created (none of our children would like to cut through their beautiful earth ☺), so that everyone could see clearly all those layers inside the planet. It was such a fun lesson for all of us!



Towards the end of April, we also learned about earth’s revolution and rotation. We began to understand that it takes a year – 365 days for the earth to orbit around the sun, and 24 hours for its own rotation!

### Character Education – Courage

By reading books and discussions, our children studied the trait of being courageous in April. We were surprised to find out in the book “Bravery Soup” that the monster was afraid of Carlin, a little skunk who was so scared of monsters! We like the words from the Big Bear “You are braver than you think!” In addition, our little ones exercised this trait by having the courage to:



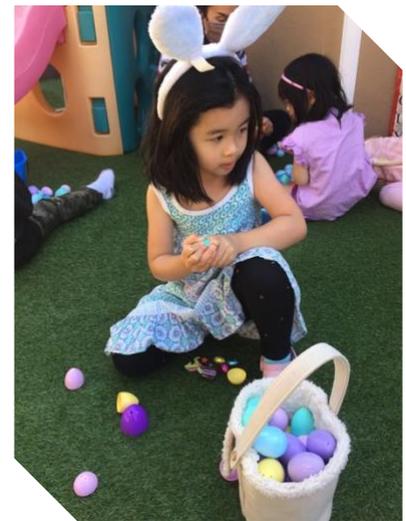
1. Take challenges to do things that we were afraid of
2. Ask for help when needed
3. Tell others to stop when they are not following class rules
4. Overcome our fear for unknown things, such as monsters

### Language Learning

In April, we continued to learn conversational language in Chinese and Spanish. Chinese is such a complicated language which consists of Pin Yin (phonics), Han Zi (characters), and Sheng Diao (tones). We are delighted to see our children making progress day by day!

### Cultural Occasions:

We began the month by celebrating Easter on Friday April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Aiming to give our children a wonderful experience, we hid six different kinds of eggs on four areas – our neighbor’s front yard, school front yard, inside the classrooms, and school backyard (playground). After a walk around our neighborhood, with great excitement, our children carried out their multiple-station egg hunt. It was priceless to see their faces radiant with happiness when counting their eggs!





As mentioned above, we also celebrated **Earth Day** with a field trip to the Lake Cunningham Park.

## Montessori Wisdom

### Teaching of the Child

“Look what the educationist does for the child. He speaks and speaks to the child and thinks most untrue things because he imagines the child understands nothing. If the child is not capable of being interested in the poor things the adults say, they become severe and oblige the child to repeat what they say. But the child is not only a creative personality, but a personality that can be in contact with God himself. Yet he cannot be in this contact if he has not achieved a certain independence from adults. The child looks for his independence first, not because he does not desire to be dependent on the adult, but because he has in himself some fire, some urge, to do certain things and not other things. This is his inward law. However much you speak and speak, you accomplish nothing, because the child cannot take directly but only indirectly. This is the teaching of the child.”



--Maria Montessori, *The Absorbent Mind*, p. 44

### Montessori Quote & Manifestations



“What makes him choose one object rather than another? It is not imitation since there is only one example of each object, and if one child is using it at the time no other child can use it.

Therefore it is not imitation. This may be shown even in the way that the child uses the material: he becomes so attentive to what he is doing and so immersed in his work that he does not notice what is going on about him but continues to work, repeating the same exercise dozens of times over. This exemplifies that phenomenon of concentration and the repetition of an exercise which is connected with a child’s inner development. No one can concentrate through imitation. ”

-Maria Montessori, *The Discovery of the Child*, p. 96

## Gratitude

1. Thanks to our staff members for their hard work during the Easter break.
2. Thanks to Ai-An’s parents for their kind referral, we are so delighted to have Emma in our program!
3. Thanks to Elyse’s parents for their contribution of milk, vegetables, and fruit!
4. Thanks to Daniela’s parents for their contribution of snacks, and especially a top quality and beautiful book display!
5. Thanks to Tiffany’s parent for their contribution of delicious snacks!



## Announcements

6. During the Easter break, we had our third staff training in which we watched the amazing documentary "Montessori: Let The Child Be The Guide". After the movie, we went for a hike in Alum Rock Park for team building. It was a shame that Ms. Kellie couldn't join us due to some family commitment. We are so blessed to have a team of dedicated teachers who are so loving, patient, and compassionate!



## Reminders

7. May 2021 tuition is due by **Wednesday May 5<sup>th</sup>**. To avoid any late payment fees, please make the payment before this date. An invoice will be sent to you soon.
8. Bearing in mind the May monthly theme (Fruit & Vegetables) and character education (compassion), parents please help your child whenever appropriate to reinforce their learning.
9. A kind reminder that please continue to exercise precautions so as to keep our small bubble safe and healthy.

