



Looking Ahead
May 25, Fri. No School. Professional Development Day. Care available.
May 28, Mon. No School. Memorial Day.
June 7, Thu. Last Day of School.
June 8, Fri. End of Year Celebration @Squirrel Park
 5/21 Snack, laundry, flowers: **Mina**



We continue to enjoy Squirrel Park, digging, exploring, finding insects, watering and identifying flowers and plants!

“Children who have the opportunity to be in contact with reality when they are young have a better opportunity to make the right choices, to distinguish between alternatives, to be creative, to exercise critical analysis, to imagine constructive and meaningful things, and to manifest their intelligence. When the mind is ordered and the thought-structure is clear, the imagination can proceed to draw conclusions and make logical deductions and inductions that cannot be seen, or even experienced, directly.

When there is senseless talk of fantastic things that are not based in reality, there is a total incapacity to perceive actual things correctly, and it is therefore impossible to organically construct the intelligence. There is no way to achieve anything when a person repeats or imitates the images of others. Every artist, to be able to create, has to observe reality.”

Silvy Dubovoy, 2005. *Reality: The Most Powerful and Integral Key to the World*



Grand Opening of our new space during Parent Evening!



Land and water forms come alive when I pour the water.

How are creativity and imagination developed in the Montessori environment?

We provide the child with real experiences that will constitute the basis on which she can then use her imagination and creativity. In the sensorial area we isolate the qualities of the world around us, shape, size, color, texture, weight, smell, we give it a name, and in this manner refine the perception of these qualities and of the relationships between them. The children become very aware of all these sensorial qualities in the world around them and become deep observers and keen analysts. We build abstract language from concrete experiences in language (sounds) and math (quantities), which leads to a deep understanding, even if still unconscious, of the elements in these languages and

the relationships between them. We give lessons that allow the child to experience the basic concepts represented in the Montessori materials, but then allow the children to repeat and explore further, independently, with purpose and concentration, which requires discipline. The children follow their own interests and choose the work that they want to do, and they persevere to complete it. All these qualities-independence, perseverance, concentration, observation, and discipline-support creativity. It is important that at this stage the child has real experiences that will promote these qualities and prepare the way for a rich imagination and meaningful creativity.

Nature is a wonderful environment to be independent, observe, and ask questions. Sit under a tree and let your child explore independently. Bring out materials to expand her experience, paper and pencils, rope to tie, a bag or a box to collect things, a jar to observe an insect, and a book for yourself to do your own work-no phones! Make it a daily routine this Summer!



With the number rods and cards I associate a quantity with a symbol.



Tracing the sand paper letters. An explosion of language in Violeta this week!



I use a blindfold to feel the rough and smooth touch tablets and find which ones feel the same



Advancing towards abstraction with the stamp game. I am doing addition ...



... and I am doing multiplication!



More language with the vocabulary cards, I read the labels in Spanish and match them to the images.



I found that you can make a binomial cube with parts of the trinomial cube! How cool is that!