



Imua Inclusion Preschool Newsletter

April 25-29

Camping...the beginnings

After observing the children over the last couple of weeks we noticed that the theme of camping was happening in multiple places. We decide to harness this shared interest and create a dramatic play camping area. The first step was to brainstorm with the children on what we would need to create a camp site. As we do this, the children are given the opportunity to share their ideas with each other. They also see their words being written down with an icon creating a direct connection between the written and spoken word. The children had lots of logical ideas including food, tent, p.j.s, fishing gear and a fire. Zebedee chimed in with “trash bags” which connects to our taking care of the earth concept. At a later point, Tatym suggested that we put an ukulele in the area and Sebastian said we needed blankets so we could be cozy. On our walking trip to the park we collected sticks and Ms Gemma brought some big logs. Back at school, we played camping on the playground. Monty, Zuri and Zoe made fishing poles and fished in the stream while Aoife and Emma told spooky stories and pretended to make s’mores. Inside, we enlisted the help of the children in re-arranging furniture, a stage called “out with the old” in our process of bringing in a new dramatic play theme. Then, we erected a tent, added some blankets and ranger outfits and used our trusty check-in area as the Ranger Station. Next week, we will add and make more props and discuss what people do when they camp. If you have any items you think may be useful please let us know! Hiking gear, small coolers, old backpacks and maps for example.



Dates to Remember

May 6 SCHOOL CLOSED

Teacher work day

May 11 Possible bus trip to Uncle Wayne concert at St. Anthony's

May 27

End of the year celebration
Garden Party~info coming soon
530pm

Dayenu!

This week, Aunty Nanc joined us to share her Jewish culture. We celebrated Passover in both traditional and non-traditional ways. First, she taught us about the concept of Dayenu which means it would have been enough. It speaks to being grateful for what we have and thankful for what we get in addition. She connected this to our I am thankful song which we sing before each meal. Speaking of meals, the children made chicken soup to which we added Matzo balls. Unfortunately, the matzo balls disintegrated in the cooking process but they still made a tasty addition to the soup! The children used real knives to chop the vegetables and were very careful with the tools. Allowing children to use real tools gives them a sense of responsibility and allows them to take a risk in a safe way...under close supervision! We demonstrate our trust in their abilities and help them learn safety and risk assessment.

Aunty Nanc also brought a lovely book to share and some finger puppets of the plagues...all done very light-heartedly. She had Ms Gemma dress the part for the reading. We also had a dancing Matzo man which the children loved and shared a couple of songs on you-tube. On Thursday, the children had to hunt for the Aifikoman-a hidden matzah cracker. They said it reminded them of an Easter Egg hunt as they ate the crackers. After the hunt was over, we played with a blow up Matzo ball and practiced taking turns. Thank you Aunty Nanc! It's always good to see you!

