

Issue 4

Friday, November 5, 2010

**NEWS**

Candle lighting times:
Friday evening,
5:28 pm



Autumn has arrived. The leaves have all changed colors and the children and teachers at the Jewish ELC are singing and dancing to the season. We find leaves outside to hold while we sing: "The leaves are falling down. The leaves are falling down. Red, Yellow, Orange, Brown. The leaves are falling down." Acting as though they themselves are leaves, your children enjoy turning, swaying, blowing, spinning, dancing and finally sleeping as the leaves make their final destination to the ground. We always wake up for another round.

Last week, we made doughnuts in celebration of the letter of the week, D. Your children sang 5 Little Ducks and made stick puppets to play with each time we sing the song. As a way to introduce the idea of syllables, the children clapped out the number of beats in their name. We then decorated kites and stapled bows onto the kite's tail. The number of bows on each kite represents the number of syllables in your child's name. In continuing with the fun we were having, the children jumped the number of syllables they heard in words such as "pencil," "backpack," "eraser," and "lunch."

Morah Rochel introduced two new Hebrew letters into the Aleph-Bet Bayit: Gimmel and Daled. Last week, the children decorated their Gimmel's with raindrops as they explored the Hebrew word for rain, geshem. This week, the children explored the Hebrew letter Daled by making a magnetic Hebrew letter fishing game, in celebration of the Hebrew word for fish, Dag. Your children will be bringing this game home; thereby allowing them to reinforce the letters they have already learned in school.

We began our "All About Me" Unit this week with a rhyme called "My Body Can:" "My little toes can tap, tap, tap. My little hands can clap, clap, clap..." We then played a game called "Where does this belong?" Items were taken from a bag, one at a time and placed on a mat. The children had to identify the item and tell what part of the body it belonged on. After each child had an object, we went around the circle and each child had the opportunity to tell the group the name of their object and what part of the body it belonged on. For example: "I have socks and they belong on my feet." All of the children participated enthusiastically in this.

We also began exploring our 5 Senses this week. Beginning with our sense of hearing, the children listened to the story "The Noisy Book," by Margaret Wise Brown. After sharing the types of sounds the children hear with their ears, they looked through magazine pages to find pictures of things that make sounds. In learning about the sense of seeing, the children had the chance to look in the mirror to discover the color of their eyes. We incorporated this into a math lesson where the class charted the eye color of all of the children in the class. By turning the sense of seeing into a math lesson, the children had the opportunity to count and compare numbers and also to learn some math vocabulary such as more, less, fewer and greater. At the end of this unit, the children will have their very own personal "My Five Senses" books to bring home and share with their families.

While we will conclude our study of the Five Senses with learning about Feelings and Emotions next week, Morah Rochel and I will extend the unit by incorporating the Five Senses when teaching about Chanukah and Thanksgiving.

With the

Thanksgiving season approaching, we would like to thank you once again for entrusting your children into our care. We truly enjoy working with them and caring for them each and every day.

Pictures of the Week

Shabbat Shalom,
Morahs Apphia, Tara and Rochel