

CALENDAR

- 2/2 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
- 2/2 ASM Spirit Day
Pizza Lunch
- 2/2 Chinese New Year Celebration
Sponsored by PACE
3:30 - 5:00 p.m. (American Room)
- 2/7 Portrait of a Graduate
7:00 p.m. (American Room)
- 2/8 Kindergarten In-House Field Trip
MA Audubon
- 2/9 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
- 2/16 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
- 2/16 Pizza Lunch
- 2/16 Re-enrollment Agreements Due
- 2/19-23 School Vacation Week
- 2/26 School Resumes
- 2/26 Founders' Day Celebration
Breakfast
8:15-8:45 a.m.

Our Classroom...



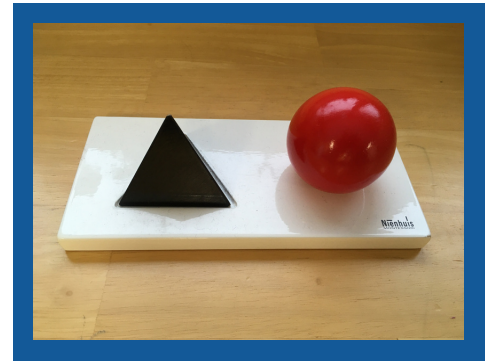
Morning Kindergarten



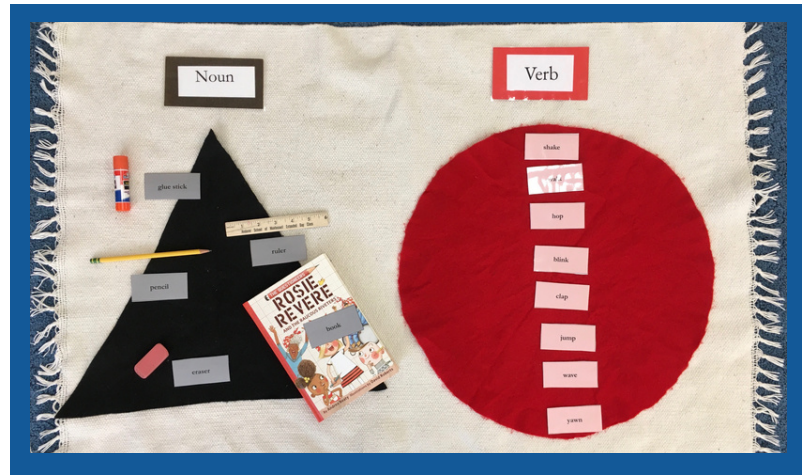
Afternoon Kindergarten

Language

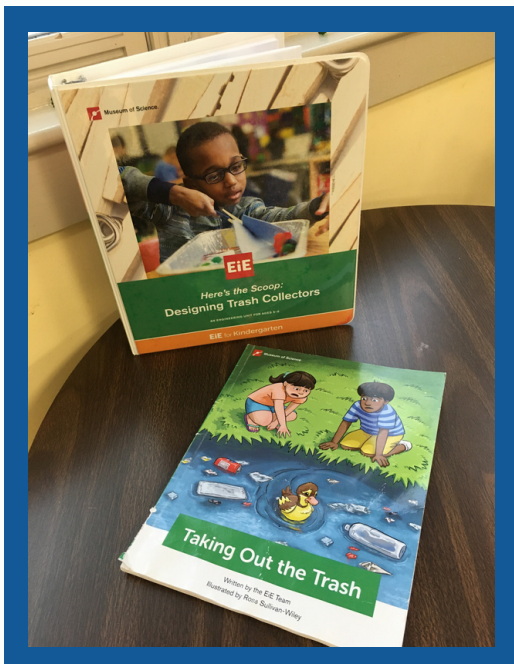
In language, we are learning about grammar and the structure of language. We were introduced to the noun and verb. Dr. Montessori used a black, square based pyramid to represent the noun as the pyramid is symbolic of stability. For the verb, she chose a red sphere which rolls and demonstrates action. We learned that a noun is a word that names a person, place or thing, whereas a verb is a word that shows action or that uses energy.



Pictured here is the one dimensional representation of the noun and verb. It is also an activity on the shelf. The noun is a black equilateral triangle and a red circle is used for the verb. We have been enjoying a naming game (nouns) and the verb activity where participants act out the action words.



STEM



With the start of the New Year, we enthusiastically began our second Engineering is Elementary Unit for Kindergarten. "Here's the Scoop; Designing Trash Collectors."

In this unit we meet the characters; Yumi and Dev; who are in Kindergarten and live in the same apartment building. They spend a lot of time playing in the neighborhood park across the street. A favorite activity at the park is feeding the resident duck they have named Danny. One day when visiting the park, Yumi and Dev are very upset to find trash in Danny's pond. They are worried about the trash harming Danny or making him sick.

The problem we will work on solving through this series of lessons is how to clean up the pond.

Our unit will culminate once again at the create step and we will be designing a trash collector. The goal, once we get to the create step, will be to build a trash collector on the handle provided that takes the trash out of the pond while leaving the water behind.

[Click here for more classroom photos!](#)

Science

As our unit of study about the human body continues we are now learning about the respiratory system. This unit started with an overview of the lungs. Then, our focus shifted to the diaphragm. The diaphragm is a muscle that separates the chest cavity and abdomen and also moves with the breathing process. Pictured here is an activity we are having fun exploring. The knotted balloon at the bottom represents the diaphragm and the balloon inside the container represents a lung. When the balloon with the knot is pulled down, the balloon inside is filled with air. When the knotted balloon springs back in place, the one inside deflates. The straw at the top is meant to represent the trachea or windpipe.

We also learned a Lung Song (*to the tune of "Row, Row, Row your Boat"*)

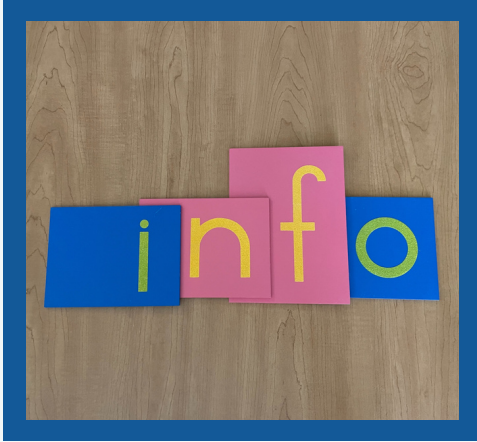
Breathe, breathe, breathe in air
And your lungs will grow.
In and out
In and out
That's the way it goes.



In House Field Trip

NASA's Goddard Visitor Center is located on the main campus of the Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland. We were so excited to have the opportunity to participate in their virtual field trip. Our presenters; DJ and Amanda were quite skilled at making the information understandable for this age group. Did you know astronauts prepare for space for two years and that some of that preparation takes place in a pool? The floating sensation (in water) and the use of oxygen tanks for breathing (under water) prepares them for living on the International Space Station. The demonstration of the space suit was a favorite for all. From the mini computer on the chest of the upper part of the suit to hearing that putting on the suit pants is a two person work! During the Q&A session we found out that the Mars rover named Opportunity (aka Oppy) that we learned about earlier in the year, will not be able to come back to Earth. DJ explained that NASA does not yet have a way to bring Oppy back.





Reminders

- Sneakers are the preferred footwear for Physical Education classes. AM class has PE on Monday morning & PM class has PE on Tuesday afternoons.
- With the snow and wet weather we have needed quite a few clothing changes. We kindly ask that you refill empty spare clothing bins.

Founders' Week Auction

During Founders' Week (February 26 through March 1), ASM will host an auction! This event will help our school raise funds for our Founders' Fund for Teaching Excellence; which is an endowment focused on continued professional development opportunities for ASM faculty and staff. The students have been working on our classroom's auction item and it has been exciting to see them working together to create a unique item for one lucky family to take home. We can't wait for you to see!

Get ready to bid on this exclusive creation representing the 2023-2024 Kindergarten class!

