

Elementary – March 29, 2019

In the depth of the Montessori Pedagogy, there is the philosophy of Freedom and Responsibility. This week we will take a closer look at freedom and how it relates to the work of the children. In Montessori, the term freedom means: freedom is to act and be spontaneous in a prepared environment, freedom to move, freedom to converse, freedom to make choices, freedom to choose the mode of activity, freedom to choose whom to work with, and not to be hindered in that choice by adult imposition.

How does freedom appear in our elementary classrooms? There were enthusiastic explorations within every discipline. In language, children analyzed creative and fun sentences such as, "The tiger cub jogged up and down the hallway." (The children are required to act out the sentence, and it was a joy to observe the "tiger cubs" jogging.) Others worked together in a group, exploring contractions through a childhood style game of "memory matching" of I'll and I will. Others were learning about auxiliary verbs and verb tenses. In Geography, with the change of the seasons, children were studying global winds and the spring equinox. Science experiments are also percolating up in all the classrooms. It is common to overhear such joyful statements such as, "Wow, mind blown. I was NOT expecting that!" – When looking at salt permeate the classrooms. The children are having great fun with the microscope. Through the freedom to explore, freedom to work, and freedom free from adult interventions the world around the children is exciting, mind blowing and filled with wonder.

Welcome Back!

Lisbeth and the Elementary Team