



Part of the Elementary curriculum is looking at the needs of human beings. The children explore "material" needs such as clothing, housing, defense, food, and transportation. The children also take a look at what is considered "spiritual" needs of man. This includes the parts of life that impact the spirit of the human being such as religion, music, and art. We all need a safe place to live, and food to eat to feel that our needs are met. However, we need something more than just the concrete materials; something that penetrates within us, something that brings us joy. It is, in essence, about finding the balance between the two categories.

The process and production of the Lion King speak to the "spiritual" part of this particular lesson. The children coming together as a community that displays grace, courtesy, art, creativity, bravery, and imagination is enough to humble anybody. Below the apparent work of practicing one's part, it is about the intellectual challenge of memorizing lines, the community building of working with new friends, the collaboration of all three environments working for the greater good of the result; feeling proud of what is accomplished. When these areas align in a community as they have for the children, Dr. Montessori would say that we have reached education for peace.

We, the elementary team and school, hope that you will tuck this experience away in your memory as a joyful nugget that will lift your spirits.

Hakuna Matata!

*Lisbeth and the Elementary Team*