



Chadoshot HaGan Kindergarten News

October 22, 2004
7 Cheshvan 5765

We had a smooth and productive week in centers. The book *Seven Blind Mice* by Ed Young set the stage for a drama the children performed in one center. The children first listened to the story and discussed what they thought the author was trying to teach us. They then acted out the story in which seven mice make a strange discovery. Each mouse looks at part of this strange thing and reports back to the group what they think it is. Each mouse believes it is something different, and they all begin to argue. Finally the white mouse explores the whole thing, instead of only looking at part of it, and discovers that it is an elephant! The moral of the story: "Knowing in part may make a fine tale, but wisdom comes from seeing the whole." The children were able to relate this to their lives by discussing the ways in which we can gain from working together and listening to each other. Ask your Ganster how their group decided to act out the story, which mouse they were in the story, and what they thought the strange thing was.

This week our color unit offered another opportunity for the Gansters to be scientists in our chromatography, splitting colors, center. Similar to professional scientists, our Gansters documented their predictions, explanations and thoughts in a science journal. The children were asked what they thought would happen if a strip of paper with a black mark colored on it were dipped into water. They then wrote their prediction using invented spelling. After predicting, we tried it out and each child wrote down what they observed. The kids had many questions as they observed the ink spreading and separating into different colors. Many were surprised that the black ink was actually comprised of many different colors. They wrote down their own explanations of what was happening. The children then speculated as to the reason behind the phenomenon. After everyone tried this experiment, we decided to look at a non-fiction book to discover why this happened. We read two pages from *The Science Book of Color* by Neil Ardley. Try this experiment at home! Simply cut a coffee filter into strips, and color a dot 3/4" from the end of the strip (felt tip markers work the best, although Crayola markers do not). Dip the filter in water, but not all the way up to the dot. Observe for 2-5 minutes. Challenge your Ganster with these questions: Can you find ways to make the colors separate faster? Can you find a way to stop the separation of colors? What happens if you use a permanent marker? What happens if you use a liquid other than water? What might happen if you tried this with a different color of ink?

In the Hebrew center, children heard a wonderful interactive story called *בזונים בחמשה מעטה* (The Tale of Five Balloons). In this book, five children each got a balloon and one by one, the balloons popped. The children were sad when their balloons popped, but

realized that "this is the end of every balloon." The Gansters helped to act out the story, saying "boom, trach, mah karah? (what happened?) Habalon hitpotzet (the balloon popped) habalon nikra (the balloon got torn). In project following the story, children were challenged to recognize and identify the color in Hebrew of each balloon and fill it in with the corresponding glitter. Almost all of the children can identify each color in Hebrew. These projects are on display in the classroom. Ask your Ganster to tell you all of the colors in Hebrew אדום adom=red, צהוב tzahov=yellow, ירוק yarok=green, סגול sagol=purple, כחול kachol=blue.

In the independent center this week, the children worked as a group to create a beautiful rainbow collage using a variety of materials. Each group created beautiful and unique rainbows that are interesting for not only their color, but texture as well. The real challenge in this center was to plan the collage with the group and to compromise.

We've added many new things to our morning calendar routine. Ask your child about writing numbers on the white boards, looking at patterns on hundreds chart and counting by 1's, 5's and 10's. On Tuesday afternoon, we learned a great math game to play with a partner. The game uses memory and number recognition skills, by having the students play "concentration" matching single sided dominos to numerals. It was interesting to see how some students came up with different versions of the game that worked as well the model that was presented. Dominos are a great educational toy for children to mess around with. On Friday morning we worked with color tiles and the white boards to write and solve addition problems. The children did a great job of using the formula $a + b = c$. Some of the children even worked on very high numbers such as $1000 + 2000 = 3000$ (not using the blocks, of course). Ask your child to write an addition sentence with you.

Letter of the week is "צ" for צבעים (colors) Children should bring items beginning with "צ" on Tuesday. Suggestions include צעיף (Tzah'eef) scarf, צב (tzav) turtle, צפור (tzevor) bird, and צבע (tzevah) color, צפרדע (tzfardayah) frog. English letter of the week is "I" for impressionism. Children can bring items beginning with "I" on Thursday.

Snack Provider: Perez
Shabbat Helper: Zachary

For your Information:

** Picture Day is coming! On Tuesday, October 26th all Gansters will participate in a group photo and photo for our yearbook. Please fill out the order forms and return by Monday afternoon if you wish to order photos. The photographer suggests wearing solid colors for these pictures.

** Artware orders are due on October 25th. These pieces make great Chanukah presents for friends and family.

** Don't forget tzedakkah on Fridays.

** Parent-teacher conferences are approaching. There will be sign up sheets in the office next week. Please take a moment to sign up.

Have a Shabbat Shalom and a great weekend,
Morah Jennifer, Morah Judy and Morah Dorit