

# MIM ELEMENTARY CLASSROOM NEWSLETTER

September 23, 2011

## Language Arts

On Wednesday we began using the Montessori Grammar material. All of the students were introduced to the definition of nouns and classified them into three groups; person, place, or thing. Some students were also introduced to articles and adjectives. Students were given short phrases and used the grammar symbols to identify these parts.

## Science and History

During the 5 Great Lessons, we had a discussion about the development of written language. Students were introduced to hieroglyphics and other types of written languages of early civilizations. Students created their own hieroglyphic languages, used them to write phrases, and had classmates decipher them.

## Art

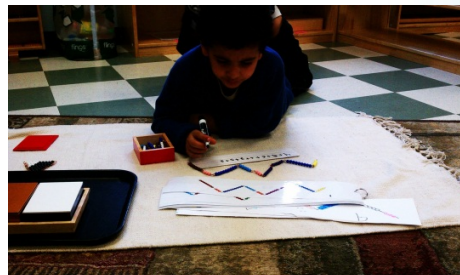
Last week students worked on an activity that allowed them to mix black and white colored water to colored water to create several tints and shades of a certain color. On Friday, students sketched pictures and used their knowledge of tints and shades to paint pictures. Each student chose one color, added white and black to create several tints and shades of the color, and painted their picture.

## Math

This week we continued counting money. Some students are counting groups of mixed coins and calculating the value. Others students focused on dimes. These students learned to count by ten and count groups of dimes up to \$1.00. Some students were also introduced to the Addition Snake Game. This game requires students to find the sum of ten, single digit numbers.



Counting Dimes



Addition Snake Game

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### Arabic

We learned how to greet and introduce ourselves in Arabic using dialogues and interactive ways. Kids now know how to ask and answer typical questions in Arabic including “what is your name?” and “how old are you?” I made small posters with handlers where the students learned to raise the right poster in response to the appropriate question. Kids loved this activity very much and had a lot of fun looking for the right posters to answer questions. We also learned about different parts in our heads and made an impressive activity about it (the activity is posted outside the classroom if you would like to come and see it). Now we are learning common adjectives in Arabic including “small” and “big” and similar words as kids started to form their own Arabic sentences. Kids also learned how to read and write Arabic numbers from zero to nine besides their daily activity in Arabic writing.

### Islamic Studies

We made a project to illustrate the “straight path” as compared to the “crooked path”. The project is now posted outside the classroom. Currently we are working on an even bigger project about “Ashab Alfeel” who tried to destroy Alkaaba, but Allah sent birds with special stones and destroyed the perpetrators. We also started a wonderful initiative regarding the Muslim doll “Eman” where each student will have a chance to host her for 2 days and share his/her story with the rest of class and other families. Students are very engaged with “Eman” project. Once it is your child turn to host Eman you can see what kind of activities other kids had had with her. Overall, I am so pleased so far with the student progress in all three aspects of the Arabic and Islamic curriculum.

### Quran

The students started memorizing their portions of Quran. We acquired an iPad to the class which brought a lot of dynamism and enthusiasm to the students who were eager to use the new tool for



Arabic Vocabulary