

THE GUMBO LIMBO'S

January 4, 2011



Sound of the week: jJ
Word of the Week: Jealous
Animal of the week: Jaguar

Who needs family and friends when we have parents like you! Ms Ana and I would like to extend a special thanks those families that spoiled us with beautiful holiday gifts. We feel truly appreciated and want you to know that your children are the greatest gifts of all. xxxox

Thank you.

Following some inner guide, they occupied themselves in work, different for each, that gave them joy and peace, and then something else appeared that had never before been known among children –A spontaneous discipline

Maria Montessori

Happy new year and welcome back. This month we will begin studying the continent of South America. We will learn the different countries and take a more detailed look at the biomes. The term biome is frequently used in the Montessori environment as we feel that it is equally as important for children to understand the boundaries defined by nature, as those defined by man. A biome is a large geographical area of distinctive plant and animal groups, which are adapted to that

particular environment. The climate and geography of a region determines what type of biome can exist in that region. Major biomes include deserts, forests, grasslands, tundra, and several types of aquatic environments. Each biome consists of many ecosystems whose communities have adapted to the small differences in climate and the environment inside the biome.

All living things are closely related to their environment. Any change in one part of an

environment, like an increase or decrease of a species of animal or plant, causes a ripple effect of change in through other parts of the environment.

The earth includes a huge variety of living things, from complex plants and animals to very simple, one-celled organisms. But large or small, simple or complex, no organism lives alone. Each depends in some way on other living and nonliving things in its surroundings.

When sharing the idea of biomes with the children we send a message that all things are interconnected. Every choice we make has lasting ramifications, so lets make the right choices for the sake of our planet.



The Millipede Gang
The Community garden offers a wonderful venue to study plants and invertebrates. At present the children are intrigued with the lives of millipedes. With magnifying classes in hand, we have been observing the millipedes as they go about their daily activities. We would like to bring a few back to the classroom so that we can study the millipedes more closely. If you have a large jar with a lid please send it with your child. We are planning to create a millipede hotel.

As you can see our beans (and children) are growing beautifully, limited only by their lack of climbing room. Kim has kindly donated a trellis, however we need to build a simple support for the trellis. If a parent could assist us with the construction of the bean trellis we would be most appreciative.

Other theme work that we will be learning about this month includes the calendar and the seasons (months of the year and days of the week). We plan to make a sundial and learn more about how to tell the time. Time telling is a particularly difficult concept for children to understand, so please help reinforce these topics at home. As always, any literature or fun activities pertaining to our topics of study are most welcome in the classroom.

Thank you again for making us feel so valued.

Peace and love, Adele and Ana

