Learning about Life Cycles

Our culture focus this term in Melaleuca has been on life cycles. We have investigated how pumpkins grow, made pumpkin fritters and roasted and tasted some seeds, and then planted some in the “mound” in the garden. We made pumpkin life cycle bracelets and have a pumpkin timeline on the wall in the classroom to see how long it will take to grow a pumpkin.

It was also very exciting to have ten eggs hatch in the classroom and watch the little chicks grow in the brooder pen. We watched them eat and drink, felt their feathers, heard them cheeping and felt how tiny and warm they were in our hands. They grew so quickly in two weeks! The children made scrambled eggs with unfertilised eggs (from the shop) and herbs from the herb bottles growing on the verandah – YUM!

SHANI “On the end, they have a tooth. It’s called an egg tooth. It helps them come out”.
MAEVE “We can take them out (of the incubator) when they are all fluffed up”.
SERAPHINA “Does chicks cheep when they’re at school and they miss their mum?”
BAZ “He keeps on tweeting then falling over. He’s learning how to talk”.
ABIGAIL “Oh, I want to have them forever!”
ZOE “But you can’t! They’ll turn into chickens and try to fly and break the glass”.

Blue Gum News—11th September 2014
Melaleuca Class Dads Night Out

It is always great to have our dads visit and this year was no exception! Excited children rushed into the classroom eager to show their dads some of the work they have been doing recently. Of course everyone had to visit the chicks and then each child gave their dad the special gift that they had carefully prepared this term! The dads then got individual lessons from their children before going outside for the sausage sizzle and play time! Happy (belated) Father’s Day Dads!
Wattle Class Dads Night Out

What a great success Dad’s Big Night Out was! The classroom was a hive of activity with lots of very excited children showing their proud Dads what they have been working on this term. As always the children loved hosting such a fun evening. Here are some thoughts from a few of the children about their experience.

Phoenix: “The best part of the whole night was showing Dad my writing book. I was really proud to show Dad and I think he was really proud of me.”

Ocean: “I was really proud to show Dad my maths book. Dad really liked it! I also loved playing outside and eating the sausage sizzle!”

Charlotte: “It was just great having Dad here. I showed him how I do my writing and we had nice play outside.”

To keep alive that enthusiasm is the secret of real guidance, and it will not provide a difficult task, provided that the attitude towards the child’s acts be that of respect, calm, and waiting, and provided that he be left free in his movements and experiences.

--Maria Montessori

"Only practical work and experience lead the young to maturity."

--Maria Montessori

Never help a child with a task at which he feels he can succeed.
Jarrah Dads Night Out

Thank you to all the dads who took time out to learn more about what we do in Jarrah. A few dads had specific jobs that they wanted to learn from their child e.g. the Roman Arch, Pink Tower and for the more advanced dads, Multiplication and Dynamic Addition with the Bead Frame. One dad learned how to make words with “th,” another learned how to make the Aboriginal flag, and the list goes on! Thanks, Jarrah dads! You rock!

Cheers Maria and Patricia

Term Jobs

Just a friendly reminder to sign off your term job for Term 3 by Thursday 25th September to avoid receiving an invoice.