

# THE LEARNIN' FERNS

## In October, the Ferns learned...

...all about North America!

As we wrapped up our introduction to zoology, Ferns started directing their studies to North American geography, botany, and zoology. First years reinforced their knowledge of vertebrate classes by sorting animals native to North America; second years researched a North American mammal; and third years were challenged with the task of learning all fifty states of the United States by breaking the country into regions.

Ferns also learned about biomes. We learned the types of biomes and the elements that make up a biome. After this introduction, Ferns joined forces for our first big group project. Groups researched a biome found in North America (fun fact -- ALL biomes are found in North America!) and chose how to present their research. Many groups made elaborate dioramas while others are writing a puppet show for their presentation!



## Important Dates

### **Veteran's Day -- No School!**

Monday, November 11th

### **Classroom Observation Week**

Monday, November 18 -

Friday, November 22

\*details on page 2\*

### **Special Person's Night**

Tuesday, November 19, 6-7pm

\*details on page 2\*

### **Thanksgiving Break**

Wednesday, November 27 -

Friday, November 29

## Ferns' Focus in November

Ferns will also spend November studying North America. This month, we move into the study of humans and how humans traditionally utilized the natural world to meet their fundamental needs.

Ferns will be presented the Fundamental Needs of Humans chart, learn the difference between material (or physical) needs and spiritual needs, think of how their fundamental needs are met, and research how indigenous people of North America traditionally met their needs.

## Classroom Observation Week

Fern class is always open for observations, but we are setting aside a specific week to invite all families to an observation. This is a great opportunity to see the class in action, witness the Montessori self-directed learning, and become more familiar with the environment where your child spends so much time!

You can sign up for observations in 30 minute increments. Observation chairs will be available near the classroom door. You are likely to see a very busy, social, and active class, but we ask that you do not engage with students beyond a courteous hello. Students will likely welcome you to the classroom and introduce themselves, but they will also be given the expectations beforehand to carry on as if no parents were present.

[Sign up here!](#)

## Special Person's Night

If you want an opportunity to interact with your child in the classroom, Special Person's Night is your chance! At this event, your child gets to be the teacher, and you get to be the student! Your Fern can show you around the classroom and introduce you to materials they are currently working with or share their favorite lessons.

Montessori education is so different than traditional educational settings, and it's easy to get lost in all the 'Montessori jargon.' This is one chance to clear up some of those question marks. Plus, you don't get to 'go to school' with your kid every day!

We hope you will join us on November, 19 from 6:00pm - 7:00pm!