

CMS FAMILY



A NEWSLETTER FOR THE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES OF CANTON MONTESSORI SCHOOL

February 2021

Celebrating Montessori Education Week 2021



All CMS students, Toddler through Upper Elementary, work with materials in the Practical Life and Art areas. Both areas promote concentration, coordination, order and independence, as well as, problem solving and critical thinking skills. Students experience pure joy and a sense of success while utilizing tongs, sweeping, pouring, cutting, sewing and creating. These activities assist in preparing students for more complex skills like reading and writing.



Preparing fresh juice for snack

Upper Elementary students have a shared responsibility to keep the classroom environment clean and organized. At the end of each day, students have assigned jobs such as vacuuming the carpet or dusting and organizing the classroom library. Cleanliness has become significantly more important due to COVID-19 and our Upper Elementary students take great care of cleaning all surfaces and materials after each use. Upper Elementary also learned how to use the printing press! Students created their own printing plates, covered the plate with ink and used the press to make prints!



Elementary students are learning knitting with Mrs. Butler every Thursday.



The Science area in the Montessori environment prepares the children for a lifetime of discovery as they learn about the world around them. Students label parts of the animal in Zoology, observe the lifecycle of plants in Botany and explore the solar system in Physical Science. Elementary students explore biomes, research living things and their classification, and use the scientific method with experiments.



Examining food under 8x magnification



In Geography, children hum the continent and ocean songs as they work with the puzzle maps. They build landforms out of clay, color flags of the countries and learn about the culture and customs across the globe. Elementary students create maps of the countries and continents that they are studying, make imaginary islands that include land and water forms and research how physical geography impacts the residence nearby.



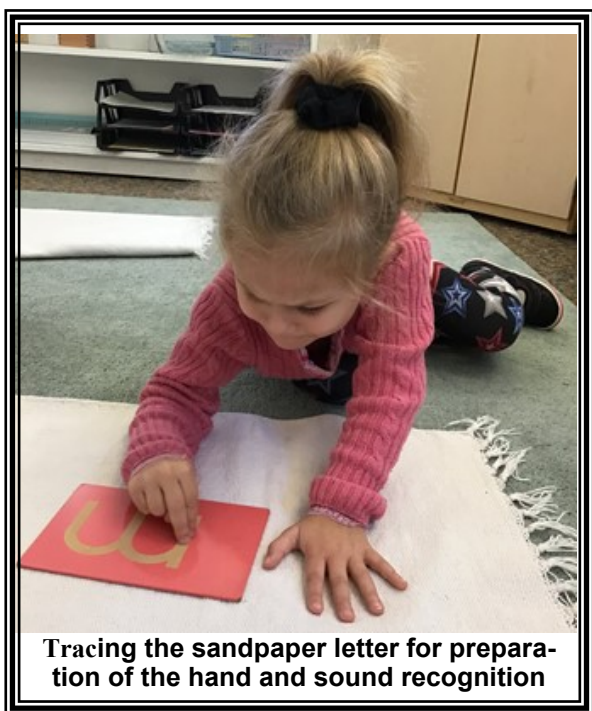
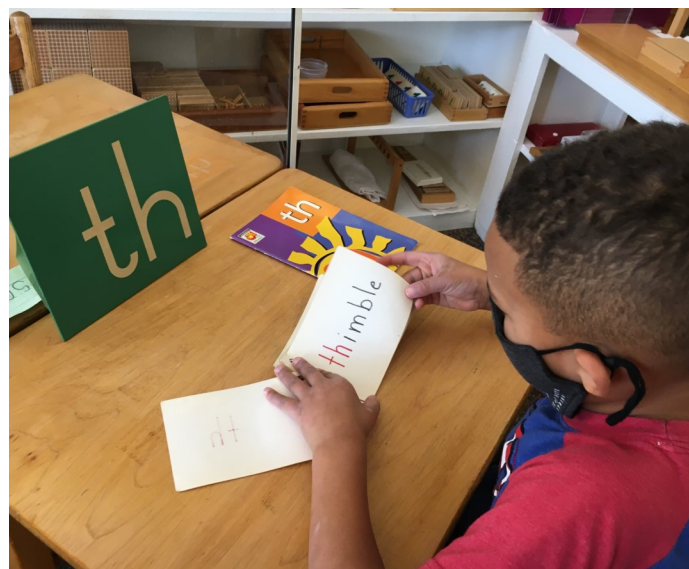
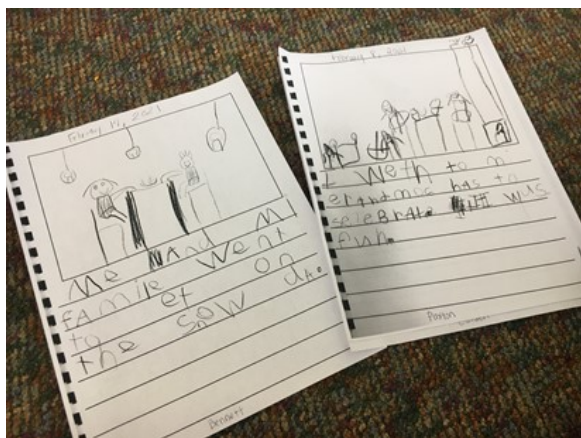
Researching the states



Upper Elementary explores geography in greater detail by studying the biomes of each continent. For example, Iris studied the mountain biome of the continent of Africa. In addition to studying the vertebrates, invertebrates and plants of the mountain biome, she studied various geographic features, climate, and the Konso culture which included their family system, shelter, transportation, clothing and food.

Students log on to the NASA website to learn about and observe the latest photos and sounds captured by Perseverance Rover exploring Mars.

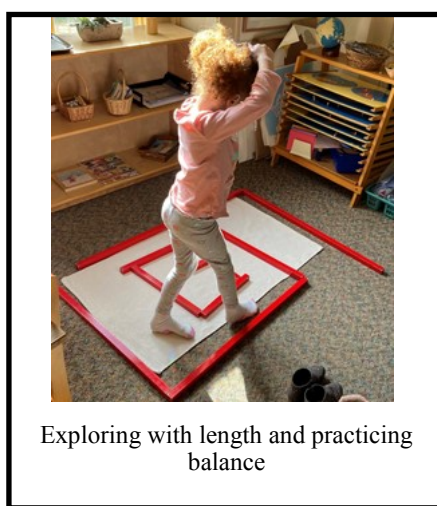
Students work on pre-reading skills by matching, classifying and sequencing and build vocabulary through storytelling, poems and nursery rhymes. Preschoolers and Kindergarteners compose words with the Moveable Alphabet, practice sight words to help promote fluency and build confidence in reading with early phonetic reading books. Tracing shapes with the Metal Insets assists the child in the proper pincer grip needed to be successful writers. Elementary students practice cursive with the cursive Moveable Alphabet, grammar with the farm material and improve reading comprehension with SRA's. Upper Elementary students utilize Chromebooks for research.



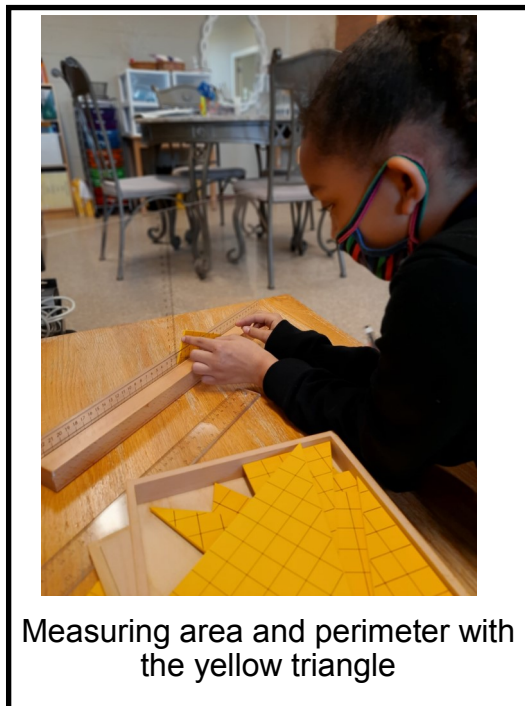
Tracing the sandpaper letter for preparation of the hand and sound recognition



Maria Montessori believed that children observe the world through the senses. In the Sensory area of the Montessori environment, students explore with size, shape, color and weight using their visual and tactile senses. By shaking sound cylinders, students refine their auditory sense. Smelling herbs and tasting apples helps strengthen the olfactory and gustatory senses. The beautiful materials in the Sensorial area aid the children in understanding the world around them while preparing them for Math, Reading and Writing. The Sensorial experiences in Pre-Primary lead nicely into the Geometry area in Elementary. Lower Elementary students explore, identify and combine Constructive Triangles to make new shapes and use a Geometry Cabinet to learn quadrilaterals.



Every morning, Upper Elementary students use their straight edge, compass and protractor to create drawings that help them learn the principles of Geometry. A student uses the Yellow Triangle material and the measurement stand to calculate perimeter and area of various polygons.



The Montessori Math area focuses on numbers 0-10, the Decimal System, linear counting, operations, fractions and telling time. Students explore and manipulate with beautifully designed materials, providing concrete experiences. The youngest children start with simple concepts. Through repetition and hands on exploration, they achieve mastery, allowing students to move slowly into the abstract and more complex math concepts in the elementary level.



Counting 1-5 with control



Many thanks to Sammy's Sweets Treats and Creations for helping us celebrate with special CMS logo cookies!



CANTON MONTESSORI SCHOOLS