



MANHATTAN SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN
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Gerri and Lindsey's Classroom Highlights from our Week

While this week was short...it was mighty. We told stories and wrote stories, opened up new centers, created rules. Thank you to our snack helpers so far. Don't forget...the snack sign up is just outside of our door. Please sign up if you haven't already. Also, please have your child bring in a FULL water bottle everyday and place it on the shelf near the door. We can't tell you how helpful this is to the flow of our day.

Writers Workshop

Writer's Workshop will happen most days in our class. During this time, teachers "TEACH" a new skill or craft, children "TRY" it out and then "SHARE" their learning. This week we practiced some oral story telling. Lindsey "by accident" spilled some markers. This gave us the opportunity to tell a story about a shared experience. These kids are natural storytellers. We also talked about representational pictures as a way of telling our stories. The kids explored the shapes of the things they wanted to write about and then tried drawing those things. So far, writing has been pretty easy going...whether it is orally telling stories, drawing pictures or attempting some letters, all the kids have enjoyed our writing times.

Creating our Class Rules

This week we began the BIG work of establishing rules. We began this work by reading the book "School Rules." The book is about a teacher who asks the kids to think about things that have really bothered them. From these "problems," his students created rules or "tools for togetherness." With this book in mind, we also thought of things that bother us, drew pictures and shared with our classmates. From this, some fun puppet work and roleplaying did ensue! As we acted out the kids "problems" we created rules that would help solve them. Some one took your maker...ask before you take. Someone cut you in line...stay in your place. We then sorted our rules into three categories...rules that "take care of you," "take care of others," and "Take care of the class." We will be referring to these rules a lot in the next few weeks as we continue to learn the routines in our class.

Guided Discovery: Library

We opened up the library this week! The kids explored what genre bins we have, learned our labeling system (ask them about that!) and practiced putting books back in their correct bin. We also read a book called "Forest Friends" about a book that sadly got damaged. Then, the kids created rules for loving our library and our books.

Worktime...

...one of our favorite times of day! Over the last two weeks we have opened up many centers for children to choose, explore, create, compromise, connect and laugh. Some 506 favorites include the marble run, playdough, blocks, magnatiles and the dollhouse. Enjoy a few pictures.



Marea, Theo and Yousif work together to create a magnatile tower.



Che and Hannah sharing a playdough moment.

Love 

Gerri and Lindsey



Kalyan, Liam and Felix testing it out in marble run.