

# RAINFOREST

OCTOBER 2015



- AN UNDERSTORY LAYER FULL OF SLOTHS IN THE RED ROOM!
- MAYA ADDING ANIMALS TO THE LAYERS OF THE RAINFOREST.

During the month of October, the friends at The Children's School engaged in an exploration of the rainforest. As always, we started our exploration by looking at books and then engaging in a multitude of activities that promoted the conceptual thematic content therein. Books like "Who is the Beast" by Keith Baker, "Looking Closely in the Rainforest" by Frank Serafini, "Can You See Me?" by Ted Lewin, "Slowly, Slowly, Slowly" said the Sloth" by Eric Carle and "The Umbrella" by Jan Brett tapped into and added to our knowledge about the rainforest. We learned that the rainforest has many

colors and we used that as an opportunity to observe the variety of colors of skin, hair and eyes among our friends and teachers.

The rainforest unit provided us with excellent opportunities to practice our interaction, cooperation and communication skills. By adding rainforest animals to the existing block, dramatic play and play dough centers, we learned how to share and wait for favorite toys, we played with each other in our treehouse and Rainforest Cafe, and we used some of our newly acquired vocabulary. The friends developed their understanding of the

layers of the rainforest (forest floor, understory, canopy and emergent layer) and the animals that call them home (sloth, jaguar, macaw, tree frog) through their individual and interactive play.

Art supplemented our play and engaged the friends creatively, intellectually and physically. We created a sloth using spanish moss, painted a jaguar with dark spots, glued colorful feathers to a macaw shape and created a rainforest collage.

In gym, Mrs. Wendolowski taught us games where we had to move and act like the animals we learned about in the classrooms.



RAMON BUILDING THE LAYERS OF THE RAINFOREST.



HARRIS PAINTING A LEAF WITH DIFFERENT SHADES OF GREEN.



AYA AND ISAIAH PLAYING WITH ANIMALS IN THE RAIN.

# PLAY HELPS OUR MINDS GROW!



Harris, Isaiah and Joshua cooperatively creating stories in the sand table.



Connor demonstrating how the treehouse pulley works.



Evren posing proudly as a brightly colored Scarlet Macaw!



Alisa and Adler digging in the soggy soil like you might see on the rainforest floor.



Julia and Josie adding to the rainforest scene.



Aya and Maya enjoying a meal at the Rainforest Cafe.

## SO MUCH TO EXPLORE!



The rainforest is full of colors! Ramon is showing which one is his favorite on the chart.



Evren weaving snakes (pieces of yarn) through a tangle of vines. Great fine motor practice!



Harris climbing the ladder on the playground that looks like a vine.



Isaiah and Adrian learning about the insects in the rainforest while assembling puzzles.



The friends used "Boomwhackers", tubes that make high and low sounds, to think about the high and low parts of the rainforest.



Alisa working hard on her artwork at the easel. The bright colors really pop on the black paper.

# MORE RAINFOREST AND FALL FUN



**OUR NEXT THEME  
IS OUTER SPACE!**

**WE WILL BLAST OFF  
INTO A MONTH OF  
LEARNING ABOUT  
PLANETS, STARS AND  
MORE!**

**We want to say “Thank you” and also look ahead...**

We are entering a month where many people think about and appreciate the things for which they are thankful, and we at The Children’s School are no different.

We want to say thank you to Joshua’s brother, Benjamin, for reading a story to the morning Blue Room friends. We are also very grateful to the parents and grandparents who sewed beautiful rainforest costumes for our dramatic play spaces!

It was a joy spending time with the families that came to the Open House, and we missed those who couldn’t attend. We hope you enjoyed the glimpse into the learning that’s happening at The Children’s School. Thank you for your time, for sharing your children with us, and for the ways in which you’ve made the beginning of this year such a good one!

Mrs. Tomer

Mrs. Marshall

Mr. Salinetro

Mrs. Loomis