



A Peek Into Our Classroom

Young Toddlers
Zimmer Preschool
March 9, 2009

The Purim story is an exciting new story full of new details for the children. There are many **new vocabulary words**, **new characters** and the story itself is new. To help the children get familiar and connected to the story the children need to be involved with it.

In class, as we learn a new part of the Purim story, the children create a page to turn into a our own Purim story as a **reinforcement measure**. As the children decorate the page they notice the image on the page and they talk about what they see. They are building a connection with the new information. The children talk about the character they are adding on and this helps them process that part of the story. Once we completed all the pages of the book the class looked at a real book and we saw how the pages turned. Morah then showed the children how we can assemble all of our pages together to be our very own "Purim Book". Then their book can be read to them, while the child adds in all the details they would like to share.

They seem really proud to have made their own book!



Baking (and shapes, and math!!)

We have made yummy hamentashen cookies, the traditional triangle cookies we eat on Purim. We rolled out the dough with rolling pins, made circles with a cookie cutters, filled the center with strawberry jelly and then pinched the sides to form the shape of a triangle. Being that on Purim we give food gifts, Mishloach Manot, to our friends, we decorated bags for our friends in the other 2 year old class and put in some of the hamentashen cookies that we made. We were so excited when in return they gave us food gift bags that they had made for us!

PURIM SONG:

Tune: *London Bridge*

Purim is a happy holiday, a happy holiday, a happy holiday,
Purim is a happy holiday, a special day!

On Purim we all dress up,
We eat hamentashen, and we tell the story
On Purim we all dress up and tell the story.

On Purim we give food gifts to our friends,
Food gifts to our friends, food gifts to our friends,
On Purim we eat hamentashen and give food gifts to our
friends

Purim is a happy holiday, a happy holiday, a happy holiday,
Purim is a happy holiday, a special day!



Aiden was stacking the pegs on the peg board, some rows higher than the next, when he exclaimed; "a big palace."

Dramatic Play (and color recognition, and categorization skills, and observation skills!!)

Although the primary objective of our activity was to create costumes for dramatic play, the children used so many other skills in the process. Read on!!

An exciting aspect of Purim is dressing up for the holiday. When teaching about a king and a queen aspect of the story we pointed out through pictures and our king and queen puppets what royal clothes a king and queen wear. We noticed that they both wear crowns on their heads and capes on their backs.

Together in class the children have been making their own costumes to dress up like either King Achashverosh or Queen Esther. We began by first making a crown to wear on our heads. There was an assortment of different color crowns from which the children could chose. It turns out that no two children have the same color crown. Each child then decorated the crown with glitter and jewel sequins. When it was dry we measured the crowns to fit our heads. Now everyone was wearing a crown. We went to the mirror to see what we looked like. The children gave a big smile, they were proud of how they looked and what they made. Some of us enjoy wearing the crown throughout the day; while we play, danced and while we ate. At the end of the day, when we took the crowns off and place them on the shelf, we notice the assortment of colors. The children have begun associating their crown by its color.

“Elisheva red, Aiden orange, Ethan blue, Chad green, Dylan yellow, Sara purple, Shalom pink, Emma green (light)”

Making the capes was an exciting project as well. We had already made our crowns and we took a look at the King Achashveirosh and Queen Esther puppets to see what else a king and queen wear. We took note of the cape and Morah asked us if we would like a cape of our own. Many of us were excited about the idea and Morah helped us put the capes on. After taking a look in the mirror the children were very enthusiastic about their costumes. Morah later offered the children to glue on different shapes to their capes and many of the children wanted to try it out. While gluing the shapes on we took note of the different shapes - squares, circles, triangles, and stars- as well as their size. Some of us labeled the smaller sized shapes as "little ___" or "baby ___" and the bigger ones as "big ___" or "daddy ___" or "mommy ___"



Everyone is invited to celebrate the Purim holiday with a fun Purim party here in Chabad. The party will begin Tuesday, March 10 at 5 pm. Hope to see you dressed up in costume and ready for fun!

Morah Chaya G, Morah Chaya K, and Morah Batsheva