



A Peek Into Our Classroom Young Toddlers

Zimmer Preschool
February 2009

The children were very excited to make their own candle holder. The gems we used to decorate the candleholder are shiny, colorful and in a variety of shapes. Some children were specifically looking for certain colored gems to use, searching through the variety and picking out the ones they wanted.

For some children, picking up the gems required a lot of concentration maneuvering their fine finger motor skills. For other children the challenge was to try and push the gems as far into the clay as they could. Each child on his/her own developmental level put effort into creating their own unique candle holder. The candle holders will be used to set the Shabbat dinner table this Friday evening.



We designed a Shabbat table game for the children to interact with, with the intention to focus on a variety of age appropriate skills. **The focus was to learn new vocabulary words, become familiar with Shabbat objects, practice color recognition and visual orientation.** When we introduce something new to the class this is usually done as a group at circle time. This time we all gathered on the floor to where our game was placed on the wall and conducted our circle time there. This gave us a chance to use the game together and learn how to use it. First we played the game as a group and then throughout the morning the children played with it either in small groups or alone.

In connection with preparing for the Shabbat dinner the children made a shabbat picture glueing the appropriate items onto the Shabbat table. Each child worked one-on-one with the Morah to give individual attention to determine with the child where each item belongs. Eg. When a child is about to glue the challah onto the paper where there is a chair, we pose the question, “where does the challah belong?” From here the child mindfully thinks where it needs to be placed.

Some children named the chairs for the different people in their family.





These are pictures of us playing together in our dramatic play center. There are many skills gained while they play.

As you look at the photos think about the dialogue the children were having with each other. Think about the sharing and cooperation skills they are gaining as they work together in a group. Think about the different imaginary roles each one is acting.



We would like to welcome our new classmates, Sarah Bontomase and Shalom Herson, to our class.

Happy 2nd birthday to Shalom Herson!

Looking forward spending Shabbat dinner together. There will be more pictures on display for you to see there.