



April 2022 Newsletter

Dear Sunrise Community,

April Showers Bring lots of Flowers

The flowers in front of the school are in full bloom and they look beautiful. Many of the students enjoy walking past the different colored tulips and the bright yellow daffodils as they head out to the playground. You may have noticed that the playground has a fresh new layer of safety mulch, and the sandbox has new play sand! The students were so surprised when they came back from their break!



Playground Information

As the weather gets dryer and warmer, the sun will peek through the trees more during outside recess. We want to avoid sunburns on sensitive skin. Therefore, please consider applying sunscreen to your child before bringing them to school. If your child has a hat or baseball-style cap that he/she likes to wear, this will also help with the sun on cloudless days. The flying insects and bugs have already returned to our playground, so consider applying bug sprays at home as well.

Due to safety reasons, children should wear sneakers or other closed toe shoes/boots on the playground now that the weather is warmer. Sandals, crocks, open-foot shoes, etc... do not provide foot support for running and climbing. We want to ensure that your children's feet are always protected from woodchips and other objects during play.

Summer Program Registration Reminder

Just a friendly reminder, if you plan to register your child for one or more weeks of the summer program option, please complete the registration form. Deposits are required for the summer program and final payments are due by May 27th – thank you to everyone who has already signed up for the program. If you need another form, please let us know! Enrollment is limited to current students and accepted Sunrise students for 2022 - 2023, ages 3 to 6. The Morning session runs 8:30am to 11:30am and the Full Day session runs 8:30am to 2:30pm

Week 1 (June 20 - June 24) Ocean Adventure

Week 2 (June 27 - July 1) Arctic Expedition

Week 3 (July 11 - 15) Desert Oasis

Week 4 (July 18 - 22) Rainforest Explorers

Offering quality Montessori preschool, pre-k transitional and kindergarten programs since 2005.

31 Hayward St., Suite J2 PO Box 515 Franklin, MA 02038

www.MySunriseMontessori.com

Other Upcoming News & Events

Sunrise Spring Fair is Saturday May 7th 12-2pm - Held rain or shine

Our Spring Fair is back! Sunrise is so excited to be able to hold this event again here at the school. You won't want to miss this event as there will be a Bounce House for the children, several fun games on the playground, pizza and some perennial plants for your garden. Our main feature will be the Raffle Baskets and our Silent Auction Items (Classroom Projects and 2 Summer Program weeks to bid on).

Thank you to the many families who donated items for the Raffle baskets and monetary donations. We couldn't have done this event without everyone's support. Our goal for this event is to bring former, current, and future enrolled Sunrise families together at our school and have some fun. The event is free to attend, and we hope the adults will enjoy participating in the Raffle and Silent Auction. Additional parking is available in the upper lot once the main lot is full.

Here's a little sneak peak of the two classroom Silent Auction projects... Classroom A is working on their fingerprints for the **Peace Dove Canvas** and Classroom B is working on handprints for their **Helping Hands Quilt!** We are busy assembling the projects and the final presentation will be stunning!



Mother's Day Event is Thursday May 12th and Friday May 13th

This year, Sunrise is inviting all the Classroom A and Classroom B Mothers to visit their child's classroom on either Thursday or Friday morning during a specific 30-minute period. The visiting schedule has 3 morning blocks to choose from: 9-9:30am, 9:30-10am or 10-10:30am.

Please click the appropriate Classroom A or B link below and pick a time block that works best for your schedule.

<http://tinyurl.com/classroom-A-guest>

<http://tinyurl.com/classroom-B-guest>

Sunrise Mothers, if you are unable to attend, you may wish to consider asking a grandmother, aunt, or special guest in your place. We request that only one person per student attend the Mother's Day event. This is a time for you or a special person to visit with your child while they are working and engaged in the classroom. Please let me know if you have any questions – thank you! **A similar event is scheduled for Fathers in June.**

Upcoming Storytelling Event with Diane Edgecomb

I am absolutely thrilled to announce that Sunrise is hosting a storytelling event on **Tuesday, May 17th** beginning at 9:30am with Diane Edgecomb. Diane is a native Bostonian, and she is excited to share her **Animal Tales** stories with our students. The students will enjoy the show on the playground (weather permitting) or in front room (if it's raining) – one classroom at a time. Diane always does an amazing job for our program, and she is an engaging, interactive performer. Please remember to send your child to school on time to ensure that they won't miss their classroom's performance.

Thank you for taking the time to read our community news!

Andrea Rossick, Head of School

Keeping in touch

If you have any questions or comments, please know that you can reach us via email.



As the teachers are working with the children during the day, please note that a reply to your question may come after the afternoon dismissal or later.

If your message is urgent and you need to reach someone right away, please call the school at 508-541-8010.

Head of School & Head Teacher

Andrea Rossick:

Headofschool@MySunriseMontessori.com

Head Teacher

Laura Holland:

Laura@MySunriseMontessori.com

Sunrise Parent Representatives:

Susannah Barry & Marissa May

ParentRep@MySunriseMontessori.com

Website and Facebook

Throughout the year the school uses its website and Facebook page to inform parents of current events and to post pictures from recent events. Please take a look at www.MySunriseMontessori.com

Be sure to check out our “**Parent Corner**”. This page can be found on the menu tab of our website. Click on any of the hyperlinks to view the selected form or information page as a PDF.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, May 7: Family fun at our Spring Fair from Noon to 2pm. We are so happy to be able to offer this special afternoon to our wonderful families, alum families and also to welcome new families for the fall. See you there.

Thursday & Friday, May 12 & 13: Mother's Day event. See sign up link on page 2

Tuesday, May 17: Storyteller, Diane Edgecomb visits

Friday, May 27: Final payment for Summer Program registration due

Monday, May 30: Memorial Day holiday. No classes; no extended day program.

Thursday, June 2 and Friday, June 3: Father's Day event. Details to follow.

Thursday, June 9: Last day of school; Closing ceremony; Early release. Details to follow.

Passive Fundraisers are just one of the many ways you can support Sunrise Montessori School!

Amazon Smile

Shopping online is not only convenient, but it can provide a benefit to our school. When you shop at [Smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), Amazon will make a donation to Sunrise Montessori School, Inc. on eligible purchases. <https://tinyurl.com/Support-Sunrise>



To register and begin shopping, simply go to smile.amazon.com on your web browser or activate in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. Select Sunrise Montessori School as your charitable organization **PRIOR** to shopping, and .5% of all eligible purchases will go back to our school. Add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier each time you shop. Or click on the QR code. Please tell your friends, family, co-workers and neighbors. Every purchase helps.



Box Tops for Education

For over 20 years, Box Tops for Education has given families an easy way to earn cash for their school, with products they already buy. You have seen and clipped those rectangular box tops. Now you can simply scan your store receipt with the Box Tops mobile app to identify participating products and instantly add cash to your school's earnings online. Go to www.boxtops4education.com to learn more.



Recycle your printer ink cartridges

Do you have used printer ink cartridges hanging around at home? Don't throw those out – Sunrise has a collection box for printer cartridges. Each month we turn them in at Staples for credit towards office supplies.



Restaurant Dine-In events

Throughout the year our fundraising coordinators will set up local restaurant dine-in events. Enjoy a great meal and the company of family and friends all while supporting local businesses and Sunrise Montessori School.



Grocery Shopping / Giving Bags

Purchase a \$2.50 reusable community bag at any Big Y, Shaw's or Stop & Shop store, follow the directions on the attached Giving Tag and direct a \$1 donation to Sunrise Montessori School (must be completed within 7 days of purchase).



Active Fundraisers

Scholastic Books

Each month parents will receive flyers from Scholastic Books which offer titles for children of all ages. Points from your purchases accumulate for the school which are then redeemed for new books and materials for the classrooms.

The Giving Tree

Check out the items on the tree, just inside the front door. Also listed through the school's website.

Amazon Wish List for Sunrise

Did you know? Sunrise has a Wish List on Amazon. Be sure to check out the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/Sunrise-Amazon-wishlist> New items are added each month.



Classroom A Newsletter April 2022

Dear Classroom A Families,

April Showers...Bring May Flowers



We hope everyone had a wonderful vacation week and enjoyed all of the celebrations that took place over the course of this month! Our class has enjoyed getting outside to enjoy the beautiful spring weather and exploring the new works in the classroom to celebrate spring!

The children loved working in the Practical Life area of the classroom, leaf polishing and watering the various plants we have in the classroom. As we continue into the spring season, we will learn about the parts of a seed, gardening, and the parts of a flower. We already discussed how spring is a celebration of new life, baby animals being born, more sunlight, and plants sprouting from the Earth! The children have enjoyed observing the beautiful tulips coming up and remember planting the bulbs in the ground back in the fall!

Before the vacation, our classroom talked about the holidays that are celebrated in April. We learned about Ramadan and read about promises that people make over the course of the month, and how some people fast during the day. We also learned that some traditions include children wearing new clothes, special pastries are baked, gifts are exchanged, and people gather for family meals and to pray. We learned about and shared the different ways the children in our classroom celebrate Passover and Easter as well!



This month in **Science**, we learned about what sinks and what floats. We read the book *Float and Sink* by Robin Nelson and *Does it Sink or Float?* By Susan Hughes. At the group circle, we experimented with various objects, and the children voted to predict what objects they thought would sink and which objects they thought would float.

The children enjoyed completing the sink and float work independently as well, bringing the work to the table and practicing various skills such as fetching and pouring water from a pitcher, experimenting with the objects, and sorting between objects that sink vs. float.





We continue to monitor the tadpoles growing in our classroom – thank you so much to the Warren family for donating them! Our classroom has loved watching them hatch from eggs and into tadpoles. The children have observed the tadpoles' eyes beginning to develop and are fascinated as the tadpoles grow more and more!

This month, as part of the Geography curriculum, our classroom learned about Earth Day, celebrated on April 22nd. We read *Celebrating Earth Day* by Janet McDonnell and talked about many of the different ways we can help take care of our planet and keep the air, water, and land that we have clean. The children enjoyed creating their own mini Earths using green and blue colored water and cotton rounds!



We have been learning about the prominent animals of Australia, koala bears and kangaroos! We read the book *Koala Lou* by Mem Fox and learned that koalas live in eucalyptus trees; the leaves are the koala bear's primary diet. The children had the chance to experience what eucalyptus smells like in the sensory area of the classroom as well. We also learned about the life cycle of the kangaroo and the children had the opportunity to make their own life cycle page and a life cycle of the kangaroo booklet!

During **Kindergarten Afternoon** class this month, we learned about the life cycle of the frog and read various informational books about amphibians. We learned that the word *amphibian* originated from the Greek word *amphibios*, meaning, "to live a double life."

We learned frogs are classified as amphibians because they live both in water and on land. We also learned that throughout the stages of the frog's life cycle, their bodies adapt to live both on the land and in the water, because when they are tadpoles, they have gills and can breathe underwater, but as they develop into froglets, they grow lungs and need air to breathe. As we learned about what the tadpoles need to grow and live throughout their life cycle, we also discovered that tadpoles are herbivores and eat only plants, but when they develop into froglets, they become carnivores eating insects as their diet.



We also learned about the holidays celebrated in the month of April and read books about Passover, Easter, and Ramadan! The Kindergarteners shared how their families celebrate Easter and how some family traditions are shared.

This month we also created our own weather journals, making observations, and using the movable alphabet to write sentences about what the weather is from day to day. We read *Fly Guy Presents: Weather* by Tedd Arnold and learned about various types of weather, clouds, precipitation, and extreme weather like hurricanes and tornadoes. We read *Like a Windy Day* by Frank Asch and the Kindergarteners had a blast conducting experiments like making a rain cloud in a jar using blue food coloring, shaving cream, and water!



It was wonderful to chat with everyone who was able to come to the parent teacher conferences! We love to hear what the children share with their families about school and to share with you all the progress and hard work that the children do in the classroom!

Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

Sincerely, your teachers,

Ms. Laura, Ms. Alka, and Ms. Samantha



Classroom B Newsletter April 2022

Hello Classroom B Families!

April was a busy month! I hope you all are enjoying the Classroom B photo links that I have been sending out every other week. It is so fun to see the children in action throughout the day.

Geography – Africa

This month we studied a bit about the continent of Africa. First, we learned a fun song from the country of Ghana. This is a song sung in Swahili titled, *Kye Kye Kule* and you may enjoy playing this video with your child, and they may remember the lyrics and movements at

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=d7RShxiWpQ0&feature=share> (we just watched first 50 seconds of this video, but feel free to share the entire video - you can skip over the ad at the beginning).

We then moved onto learning about some animals of Africa, painted the continent of Africa as it is green on our continent globe, and we dressed up with clothing from Africa.



Animals in the jungle

Carved wooden animals from Africa



Painting the continent of Africa



Coloring Animals



African Clothing

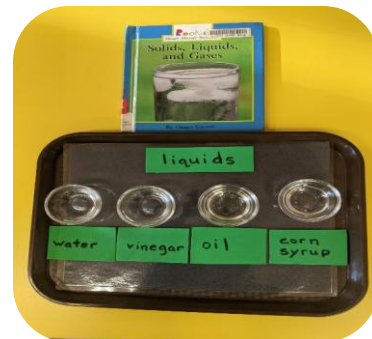
Some students also participated in learning the countries of Africa. This is a lengthy process. First, we built the continent map, colored the map of Africa, cut out the country names/labels, and then followed the control chart to glue the labels onto the correct country!



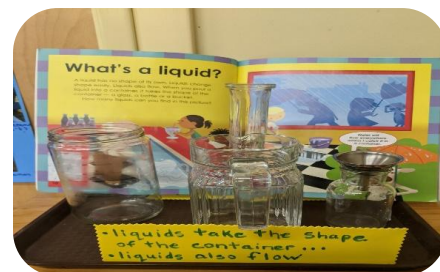
Physical Science – Matter – Liquids and Solids

We moved onto what matters....Matter! We took an in-depth study of two of the three states of matter – Liquids and Solids.

Day 1: We explored four different types of liquids. First the children named some liquids that they knew like milk, juice, and someone mentioned chicken broth! Each child had the opportunity to use their olfactory, visual, and tactile senses to guess what the liquids were. In this experiment, we learned that liquids smell, feel, look and pour differently, and that they are made up of molecules. We discovered that the corn syrup was thick and moved slowly, the oil moved a bit faster, and we couldn't tell the difference in speed between the movement of vinegar and the water.



Day 2: We learned that liquids do not have a specific shape; they take the shape of its container. We used different sized vessels for this experiment. We poured the same amount of water into each vessel (one at a time) and then examined the water level in each vessel. The students loved predicting where the water level would be for each vessel.



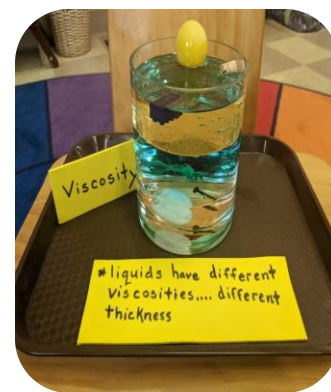
Day 3: We learned that mixing two different liquids together is called a solution. This experiment was about solubility. The students were asked to predict, form a hypothesis (they learned that means a guess), and observe before they could take turns giving the answer about the solubility of two different solutions (meaning can the liquids mix or not mix together). In one bottle, we mixed colored water and vinegar, and the class had different hypotheses on the solubility outcome – we concluded that vinegar and water are soluble together because we couldn't see any difference in the water or vinegar (it mixed). The second bottle we mixed with colored water and oil. Again, we gave our predictions, and the outcome was that oil and water are insoluble (because we could see the difference between the water and the oil!



Day 4: We introduced our second form of matter – Solids. We did a second solubility experiment with water and different types of solids: salt and peppercorns. We discovered that the salt mixed with the water, meaning it is soluble. We then learned that the peppercorns were insoluble with the water.



Day 5: This was the finale! We learned that liquids have different viscosities (thickness) and that the liquid remained in layers in the jar. We discovered that corn syrup has a higher viscosity than the water, vinegar, and oil, and it remained on the bottom of the jar. Then we added objects made of wood, cork, metal, plastic, glass, and rock into the jar one at a time to watch them either sink or float on the different layers of liquids. We saw that the cork and the plastic ball float on top of the oil; the plastic Lego is on the bottom of the oil, but floating on top the water. The metal, rock, and glass bead all traveled through the layers at different speeds, but eventually sunk to the bottom of the corn syrup.



Sink and Float Continued

Ms. Emily presented one of her science activities in the sensory/water table. This was a huge hit for the class, and everyone loved participating and they eagerly, but patiently, waited for their turn. This experiment had several objects to explore and predict whether they would sink or float. The children learned that a leaf floats, a straw floats, and a that a paper clip sinks to the bottom of the table. They continue to use the water table daily with other fun objects like yellow ducks and boats!

Science – Botany – Parts of a Flower

We started our study of flowers this month and this will continue into May as well. We learned that the main parts of a flower are the petal (is a leaf that protects the parts of the flower), the sepals (protect the flower before it blossoms), the stamen (male part of the flower) that produces the pollen, and the pistil (the female part of the flower) receives the pollen. We used a flower puzzle to learn these 4 parts.



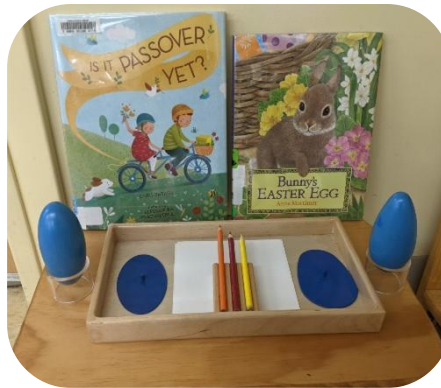
Some students are learning a more in-depth study of the many parts of a flower. They are using the 3-part matching work to match and learn each of the flower parts including the corolla, petal, pistil, ovary, style, stigma, stamens, filaments, anthers, calyx, sepal, receptacle, and the peduncle. This is also a lengthy process, and it may take quite some time to complete this multi-step activity.



Cultural – Passover – Easter and the Geometric Solids

We learned about two well-known holidays – Passover and Easter. Passover is a spring festival that many Jewish families celebrate. It begins on the night of the full moon. Easter is celebrated by many people around the world, and it is a Christian holiday.

During the spring holidays, many people like to decorate eggs. We decided that we would learn more about the egg shapes by using the metal insets (flat shapes) and the geometric solids (three dimensional shapes). The 3-dimensional shape on the left is the Ellipsoid along with the Ellipse metal inset and the 3-dimensional shape on the right is the Ovoid along with the Oval metal inset.



We did an experiment to help us learn the difference between the two shapes and to hopefully help us remember the shape names. First, we traced the metal inset Ellipse shape and cut it out. Then we folded the Ellipse in half and opened it back up to cut on the fold line. We discovered that the Ellipse is Equal (after we cut the shape in half, we had two equal halves). We then did the same process with the Oval shape and we discovered that the Oval is Odd (it did not have equal halves).

For the month of May, we will continue our study of flowers (and plant something special for our mothers), learn about insects and how they help flowers, and much more! Thank you for reading our newsletter!

With Peace, Love and Hope

Classroom teachers – Ms. Andrea, Ms. Angela, Ms. Jessica and our intern Ms. Emily