



Week 4 Newsletter

Dear Quad Manhattan Parent,

This week in Quad Squad, we asked the students to re-introduce themselves to their classmates since a new student joined The Quad Squad this week. We familiarized ourselves with one another by reviewing the concept of thoughts. We discussed how we often think about things we like: what we like to do, people we like to be around, foods we like to eat, and things that we notice. By explicitly reviewing our thoughts, students realized trends in their own thoughts and were able to concretely grasp the abstract concept of other's thoughts.

The next phase of our discussion focused on how our behaviors impact the feelings and thoughts of those around us. The students were introduced to a new concept called "red thoughts" and "green thoughts." The students engaged in a lesson which explained that these colors represent "uncomfortable/unexpected" and "comfortable/expected" thoughts, respectively. We emphasized that green and red thoughts do not translate to "good" and "bad" thoughts; based on an event or action performed by another person, we might have comfortable or uncomfortable thoughts about them. To further illustrate this concept, we watched a video clip from the movie, Elf. Elf accurately illustrates expected and unexpected behaviors made by the main character, Buddy the Elf, and the emotions and thoughts of his family and friends as a result. The students were able to easily identify when Buddy's new family members were having red or green thoughts. They were also able to explain what event or behavior was making them feel uncomfortable or comfortable. Next class, we will continue with this lesson, specifically focusing on how we can change someone's red thoughts about us by giving them green thoughts.

We then transitioned to a movement activity called "Would You Rather". This game is played by presenting two choices (for our purposes they are both positive) and then the student chooses which choice he/she would rather. To add movement into the mix, the children ran to opposite sides of the room depending on which choice they selected. It was great to see the students get some energy out while learning about each other at the same time!

We ended class at the art table to continue creating our clay nest project. The students used the "Get Ready-Do-Done" template that they were introduced to in last week's class.

Students completed the 3-step process before beginning the next phase of the project, which was to complete the outer layer of the nest mold. The students demonstrated effective executive functioning skills as they worked together to complete the project.

Reminders:

Please bring in some sticks and leaves to our next class,
October, 16th!

The Quad Manhattan will be closed on Monday, October, 9th,

in observance of Columbus Day.

Thank you,
Alexa and Parsa

Thanks for reading!