

# Mandala News

## September 28, 2012



### Choices Motivate!

Most of us do not like to be told what to do. We become either defiant or unhappily compliant. We want more control.

By offering choices, we place some control in the minds of others. This simple act strengthens the individual. Choices allow us to practice decision making, reflection, and self-direction.

As parents we become shrewd about offering choices within the context of requirements. For example, "Do you want to fold clothes first or set the table?" The child learns a sense of responsibility while having some say about the order of events.

Choices improve intrinsic motivation and lead to stronger, happier people.

*Dr. John*

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### Math

This week in math we worked on some very challenging problems. We worked on finding the area of the intersection of a circle and hexagon.

We found the area of a circle using  $\pi r^2$ . We found the area of regular polygons which included hexagons, decagons and octagons with a little bit about trigonometry. Math can be a fun subject if you can grasp the concept, or the most dreadful and dreary if you do not understand.

*Jake Roach*

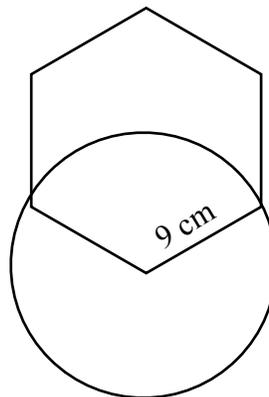
### Never Enough Art

On Monday we have an art teacher, Ms. Jeanette come in and teach us. This week we've been doing *still lives* with charcoal. But apart from that, we have a another art project going.

Some of the girls read a book called *Speak*, by Laurie Halse Anderson, and in it was an art class that inspired us to do this. What they did was choose nouns (eyes, signs, clock, etc.) and put them in a hat for everyone to choose from. Whatever noun they get they have to stick with, and they can do anything with it from sculpting to painting.

In the book the art teacher claims that whatever they choose is their destiny. For some that could be true, for others it's going to be hard for them to dig deep. As for me, I got city. How is that destiny? This project might be harder than we anticipated.

*Lydia Frier*





## Science

This week in science we learned about the subjects of density, mass, and telescopes. We learned in our mass and density unit, that the more the mass an object has, the tougher it is for that specific object to stop when it is moving.

I was curious about this because I felt that it was incorrect. When rolling a kickball and a baseball down a ramp, the theory says that the one with the more mass will roll farther. The baseball had the more mass so that is the one that should roll farther, but this was incorrect when I rolled them down a ramp. Both balls got the same amount of energy from rolling down the ramp, but the one with the more circumference and less mass (the kickball) rolled farther. Why?

Because if both of the balls had the same energy coming off the ramp and rolled fifty times than the one that was bigger in circumference with less mass (the kickball) would roll farther in my experiment. There are many variables in this project such as: if one ball got caught in a rut in the grass, or if one ball hit another ball while rolling down. This experiment has brought up more questions and ideas that would lead to more experiments and questions.

In our study of telescopes, we watched a video about the Hubble telescope. We also read a chapter in the ninth grade Earth science book and answered many context questions.

Telescopes have to be spot-on perfect. For example, the Hubble telescope's glass lens was off by .50 of a hair and it blurred all the pictures that it sent back to Earth. Until a group of scientists, including Dr. John's brother-in-law, figured out what was wrong and fixed it.

Telescopes have been sent to outer space to collect clearer images of the amazing atmosphere.

*Jake Roach*

## Beautiful Baby



Tiny fingers  
grasp on to mine.  
I pull gently,  
but his small and pudgy hand  
has a surprisingly tight grip.  
The infant begins to blubber.  
His mouth crumples  
and his eyes crease into slits.  
The first whine appears,  
but I'm ready with the bottle.  
His tiny eyelids  
shutter over his cornflower blue  
irises.  
And his mouth purses  
into Cupid's bow lips  
as he falls into dreamland.  
Beautiful baby.

*Audrey Parker*

## A DARK Secret

I tell myself everything will be fine,  
That's a lie,  
Nothing will ever be fine,  
I am a liar and a thief and I run from danger,  
The cold blood is left on the ground  
by my friends,  
The warm heart that once was there is now dead  
and is the love,  
Nothing can ever change,  
My love has gone and so is my soul,  
All that lies here is my body,  
my actions and my fear,  
The voices in my head call my name some  
curse and scream,  
Others warn me of things to come,  
I can't listen because all I hear is cold dark  
ringing of my friends,  
My friends that are now dead because of me,  
All the bad things I did now hurt me and say,  
Live.

*Elyse Biscaro*