



ROOSEVELT ISLAND EXPLORERS

RiEx Garden Session on September 14, 2013

Dear Parents:

This is a brief summary of what happened in our Garden during another wonderful gathering:

Undisturbed by the wind, children were busy with their creations and explorations. The theme of the day was CORN. However, as it always happens, they ventured out on their own constantly surprising us with new possibilities. To provide enough space for each child, we spread out a long plastic roll lined with different materials (pebbles, tree bark, leaves, cotton balls, ribbons, and others).



Provoked by corn, children removed the husk amazed by what was uncovered. Soon variety of creations emerged: Alains turned a corn cub into a caterpillar, proudly sharing his work with friends; Freyja made "French Pasta" using corn silk; Marco examined cornhusk through a magnifying glass, and others made dolls, puppets, boats, or collages. And just when everybody needed a break, Anna and George brought cooked corn to share. What a delight!



Remembering costumes they made before, children wanted to make new ones: Gautam asked for a special kind – scientist’s lab coat, Toby decorated his with wood, Mariam wore hers on her head, and Abby, Jessica, and Sienna turned into garden fairies. Anna tied their gowns with cornhusk belts, and soon, happy in their new skins, children ran around turning parents into frogs and bunnies with their magic wands. Abby even dressed up a little sculpture in the lobby. What a joy!



Some children explored in solitude: Even was figuring out markers, not how to write, but how to open and close. Mariam and Ayan built a fence with small sticks, and his little sister tasted blueberries for the first time. Carla and Laya made beautiful collage while Eric picked beans, cucumber, eggplant, and peppers. Easels are a favorite stop for children of all ages – Andrew scribbled, while Gautam drew a happy cucumber (we think he himself was happy).



We plan to get together again on Sunday afternoon, September 29, for a picnic in the Garden. We shall share simple dishes flavored by children with our garden herbs.

Please mark up your calendars - details to follow soon.

We hope to see you again,

Leila

