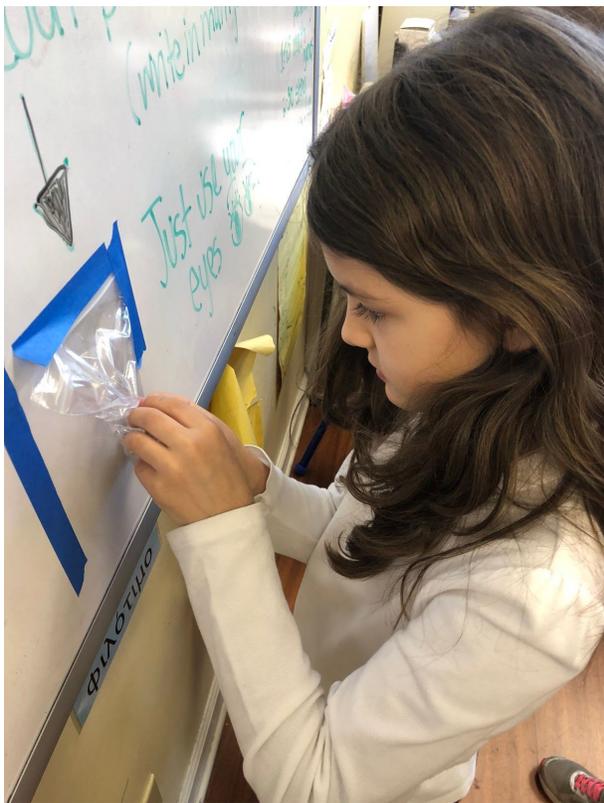


Plato Academy- Room 9

Classroom Journal: **How much money does Ms. Bia have in her coat pocket?**

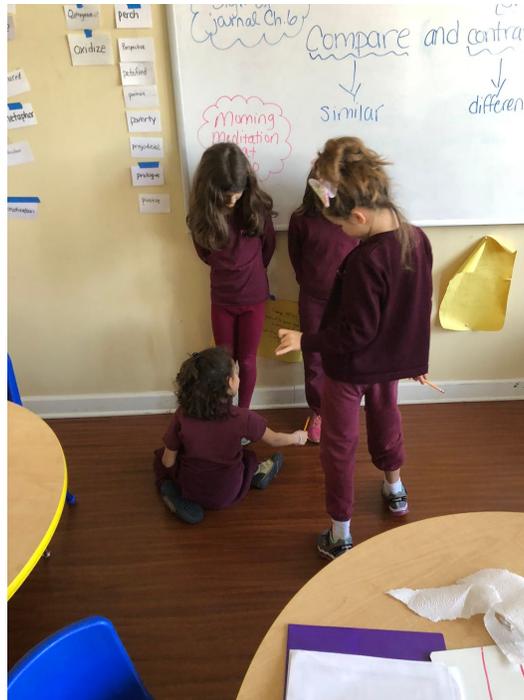
4/19/2018

Morning message: "How much money does Ms. Bia have in her coat pocket? Just look with your eyes, and whatever you do don't open the bag!" Loose change was placed in a sandwich bag and taped down on the table. The children were prompted in the morning and then it was carried throughout the day during table choice. Have you ever counted a bunch of coins with just your eyes? It can be tricky! As we begin to enter a cumulative review of the year, this exercise was a great way to informally assess and observe fluency with money and adding with decimals (even mentally adding double digits!!)



In *Arabian Nights*, we have finished the three dervish's tales. Using only GIST words we were able to recall the the three different tales and compare and contrast them. As part of this novel study different ways to decompose literature were introduced: summarizing, GIST, sequencing, cause and effect, and compare and contrast. Examples: For sequencing, What steps did you take to get ready this morning? What was your morning sequence? Why do you think sequencing is important in a story? Share each other's, does your partner have different steps in their morning than you? For comparing and contrasting, Let's compare Ms. Bia with Penelope! Now lets contrast. These exercises are all compiled and completed in the Aladdin

journals. Comprehension skills are pertinent to well, everything and because this novel is a book compiled with different short tales, it has been a great way to exercise comprehension activities (exposure to literary terms as well) and write, write, write!! Some words/places of the week are: tempted, coup, Baghdad, Middle East, austerity, poverty, and caliph.



We chose to share our math club project this week with Ms. Dionysia and Ms. Alex's class. How do we measure time? What do we call the big chunks? (Take guesses...year, decade (10 years), century (100 years), millennium (1,000 years).) "What do we call the tiny chunks? ( hours, minutes, seconds.) Stopwatches help us measure very short amounts of time, even smaller than seconds! What units do we use to divide the year? What's the order of months? Using that, let's find out the order of our birthdays! Not our ages, just our order by month and day. We've covered stopwatches and calendars, but how does a plain old clock tell time? To be continued next week..



AWESOME THURSDAY SURPRISE!! We received materials from Sienna La Renne, the author our "Story of Pawn" series: she sent us a video her publishing company made that features the characters from the story, as well as t-shirts for our students! We are certainly thankful for her generosity, and the students adored the video. What a nice way to end our "Pawn" unit!



Ramps and Pathways in Open Gym on Tuesday encouraged some great inner challenges and curiosity! In the beginning of the year the children were sometimes given a challenge/scaffolded to construct different heights and distances etc. with their ramps. As we reach our last stretch in the school year, I decided to observe the children as they created ramps, bridges, marble runs, or house for the marble to enter; and without any specific challenges/guidance they demonstrated great collaboration and construction individually challenging themselves and challenging each other. (Love sharing my ("aha") moments and observations celebrating our Room 9 kiddos with all of you!)



Happy weekend!!

Warmly,  
Ms. Bia and Mr. Foti