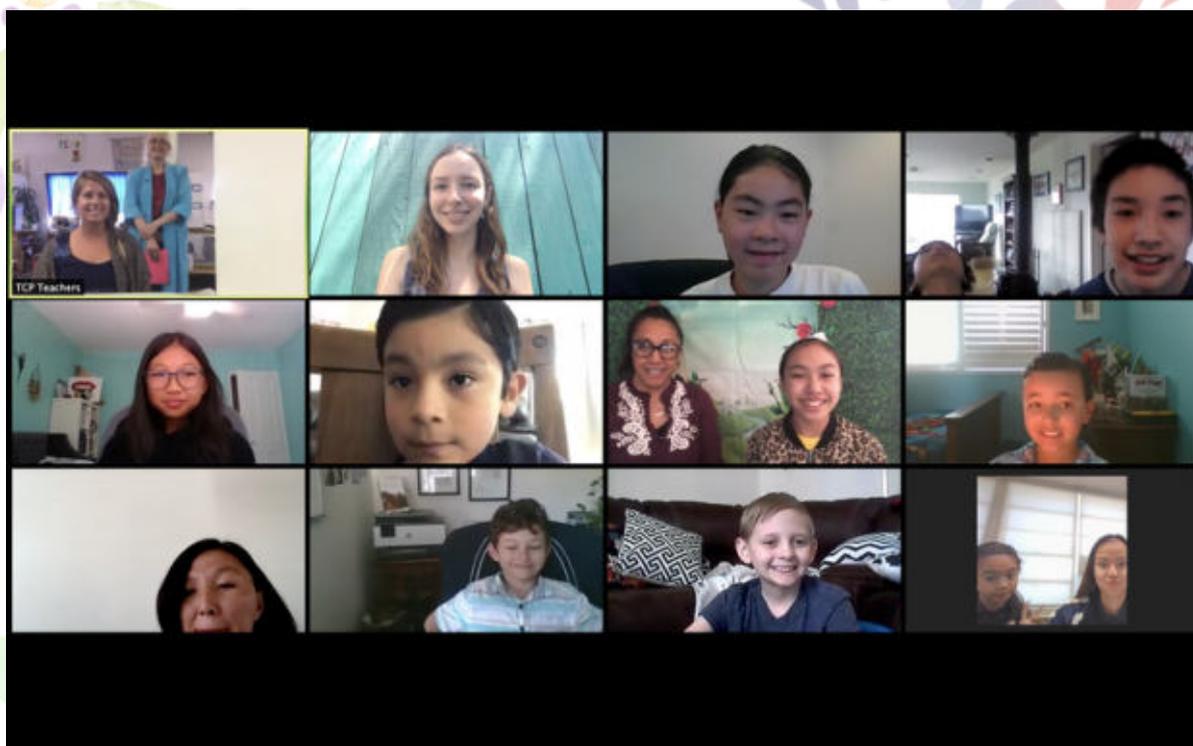


Distance Learning 2020

# TCP TIMES

The Official Newsletter of The Children's Place  
Montessori School  
Elementary Version



From Top Left: Ms. Blanchette, Ms. Jenquin, Ms. Klinenberg, Elaine Chen,  
Leon Matsumoto, Milan Matsumoto  
Middle: Torri Jutabha, Ethan Leon, Ms. Melodie (Art Teacher), Kingsley  
Aguillen, Nigel Gulliver  
Bottom: Ms. Felde (P.E. Teacher), Nicolas Spina, Angel Smith, Alumni:  
Stefano and Sirilla Gonzalez

## STILL LEARNING FROM AFAR

Everyone knows that there's nothing comparable to in-person Montessori education. Family support made all the difference as we embarked on our distance learning journey.

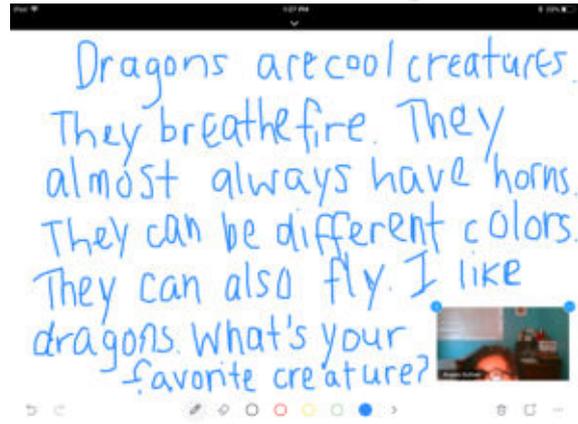
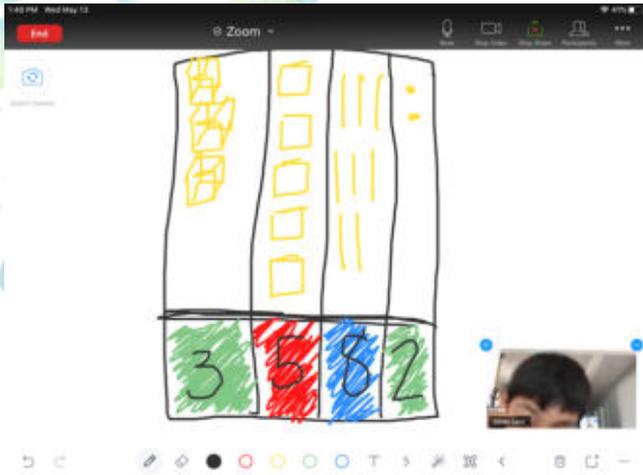
## FIELD TRIP FUN

Our end of the year field trip for the Elementary program is something we look forward to each year. This year we were lucky to be able to coordinate with the La Brea Tar Pits for a virtual experience.

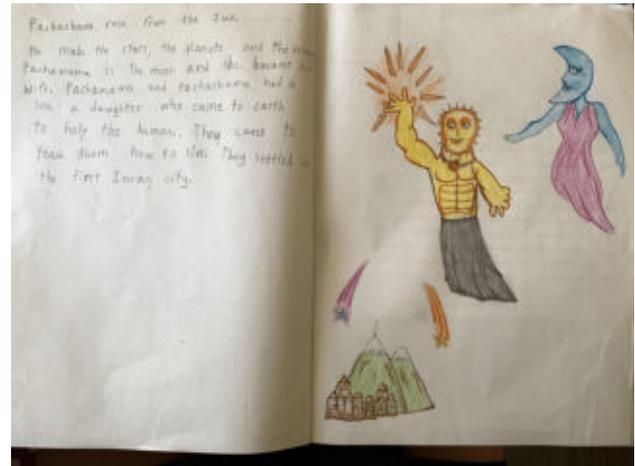
## NATURE MANDALAS

Looking for a simple activity to do during quarantine? Search no further - peace and nature combine for an easy yet enriching activity.

# STILL LEARNING FROM AFAR



"Golden Beads" with Ethan Leon, 1st grade, above Paragraph writing with Nigel Gulliver, 4th grade, Top Right Creation Story of the Incas, Angel Smith, 4th grade, Right



## FIELD TRIP FUN

In lieu of our traditional end of the year field trip, we coordinated with the La Brea Tar Pits for a unique virtual experience. Our elementary students acted as "Fossil Detectives" while observing the painted picture below of what life in Los Angeles looked like long ago. They noticed so many different things and were very participatory and polite! The students then looked at some actual fossils from the museum, trying to figure out which features of the fossils would lead them to guessing the correct animal.



an image created by paleoartist Mark Hallett that depicts Biodiversity during the Ice Age

”

We got to look at pictures and see what animals we could. I liked this because I love animals. I wish we could have had our own picture to look at.”

Nicolas Spina, 2nd Grade

**A final question from Nicolas: If saber tooth tigers were still alive where would they live and what would they feed on?**  
**Answer provided by Becca Wilcox, School Programs Coordinator at La Brea Tar Pits:** Such a great question! Current research suggests that saber-toothed cats were hunting and eating smaller, forest-dwelling animals such as tapirs (they were much more ambush predators rather than chasing down prey). Our research shows that when they were living in Los Angeles during the ice age, the climate was about 10 degrees cooler on average, very much like the Pacific Northwest now. So I think it's safe to say they could survive in that region if they were still around.

# NATURE MANDALAS



When children come into contact with nature, they reveal their strength.

-Dr. Maria Montessori



We love to get outside as much as possible. To make your very own nature mandala, we recommend the steps below. You can even create mandalas with many household items if an outside walk is not possible. Try using silverware, legos, coins, etc. Be creative!

1. Go on a nature walk.
2. As you're walking, look for things on the ground. Many of the petals in the mandala above were actually found on the ground. It's important to let children know that finding something that way is okay but taking from a plant in a yard is not (unless it's your own, of course).
3. Try to gather in even numbers.
4. When you get home, choose a center piece. Work outward. It helps to place materials like on a clock (12, 3, 6, 9, etc.).
5. Enjoy the peace and beauty.

