



Main Circle News
Indonesia Edition
Friday, December 1, 2006

**INDONESIAN RESEARCH PROJECTS TAKE THE MAIN
CIRCLE BY STORM**



ATTICUS, TORIN, AND NOAH
DRAWING A MAP OF THE

STEP INSIDE THE
MAIN CIRCLE ROOMS AND
WHAT WILL YOU SEE? YOU
MAY FIND A PAIR OF
STUDENTS WORKING ON A
HOMEMADE, HAND-DRAWN
BATIK THAT FEATURES
ANIMALS AND SYMBOLS
THAT
ARE



ALEXANDRIA AND
NAIMA DRAWING

NATIVE
TO
INDONESIA. OTHERS WILL
BE ABLE TO TELL YOU UP-

TO-DATE INFORMATION
ABOUT THE CURRENT
RUPIAH/DOLLAR
EXCHANGE RATE. MOSEY A
LITTLE FURTHER IN AND
NOTICE A TRIO OF
STUDENTS CREATING AN
ACTIVE VOLCANO
MODELED AFTER THE
LOOMING VOLCANOES
THAT MAKE UP
INDONESIA'S RING OF
FIRE. PERHAPS YOU WILL
OBSERVE STUDENTS
WORKING ON BUILDING



ALEXXYS, THOMAS,
AND ROIAND

MOSQUE
S, OR
HINDU

AND BUDDHIST TEMPLES
CREATED IN THE
INDONESIAN STYLE WHILE
OTHERS DRAW THEIR OWN
MAP OF THE INDONESIAN
ARCHIPELAGO. LOOK
EVEN FURTHER AND YOU

WILL SEE STUDENTS CONSTRUCTING MODELS OF INDONESIAN STILT HOUSES, OR TORAJANESE HOUSES WITH BOAT-SHAPED ROOFS. AS YOU TOUR THE ROOM, SOME STUDENTS WILL BE PORING OVER BOOKS, ENCYCLOPEDIAS, OR INTERNET WEB PAGES AS THEY SEEK INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECTS THEY ARE WORKING ON. AND IF YOU STAY LONG ENOUGH, YOU WILL GET TO SEE ALL THE GROUPS SHARING THEIR NEW-FOUND KNOWLEDGE WITH EACH OTHER AS WE ALL BECOME EXPERTS ON SOME AREA OF INDONESIAN CULTURE.

OUR FASCINATING STUDY OF INDONESIA HAS HELPED INSPIRE THE MAIN CIRCLE-ERS TO EMBARK ON THEIR OWN MINI-RESEARCH PROJECTS. THE RESEARCH HAS EMERGED NATURALLY OUT OF THEIR DESIRE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE PROJECTS THEY ARE WORKING ON. IN BOTH GROUPS, WE HAVE DISCUSSED HOW RESEARCH CAN BE FUN WHEN YOU ARE REALLY EXCITED BY YOUR TOPIC. THE KIDS' OWN

FASCINATION PLUS THE FACT THAT THEY ARE GETTING TO WORK WITH THEIR HANDS TO BUILD MODELS OF WHAT THEY'VE RESEARCHED HAS MADE THIS A REALLY EXCITING TIME IN THE MAIN CIRCLE. STOP ON BY TO SEE SOME OF OUR NEWEST, HOMEMADE ARTIFACTS, OR ASK YOUR CHILD WHAT HE/SHE IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON!

CULTURAL LESSONS WITH LAURA COHN, ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

THIS WEEK, LAURA SHARED WITH THE MAIN CIRCLE



LAURA EXPLAINS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HOW MEN AND

DID YOU KNOW...

... IN BALI, IT IS CONSIDERED RUDE TO POINT WITH YOUR INDEX FINGER? IF YOU MUST USE YOUR FINGERS TO INDICATE SOMETHING, ALWAYS POINT WITH YOUR THUMB.

... IN BALI, PEOPLE ONLY GIVE OR ACCEPT THINGS WITH THEIR RIGHT HAND? THE LEFT HAND IS SEEN AS UNCLEAN SINCE IT IS USED ONLY IN THE BATHROOM.

WHEN WALKING BACK

TRADITIONAL BALINESE CUSTOMS, MANNERS, FOOD AND LANGUAGE. AFTER STARTING THE MORNING OUT WITH SOME TASTY COCONUT, A COMMON INDONESIAN SNACK, THE KIDS ENGAGED IN SOME SIMPLE BAHASA INDONESIAN LANGUAGE LESSONS. YOU MAY FIND YOUR CHILD WALKING AROUND SAYING, *SELAMAT PAGI* (GOOD MORNING), *JAM BERAPA* (WHAT TIME IS IT?) OR *NAMA SAYA* (MY NAME IS). ASK YOUR CHILD HIS/HER BALINESE NAME; THERE ARE ONLY FOUR POSSIBILITIES! IN BALI, CHILDREN ARE NAMED ACCORDING TO THEIR BIRTH ORDER: *WAYAN* FOR THE FIRST BORN, *MADE* FOR THE SECOND, *NYOMAN* FOR THE THIRD, AND *KETUT* FOR THE FOURTH. WHAT WOULD YOUR NAME BE?

UPON MASTERING THE INDONESIAN LANGUAGE, THE KIDS RECEIVED LESSONS IN SARONG AND SASH TYING AND THE CARRYING OF OFFERINGS. THE CHILDREN, DRESSED IN BEAUTIFUL INDONESIAN TEXTILES, PRACTICED THE



LIOR, TORIN,
KATE, AND
WILLIE

TRADITIONAL BALINESE CUSTOM OF WALKING WITH COLORFUL FRUIT OFFERINGS ON THEIR HEADS. THOUGH THE FRUIT ENDED UP BRUISED AND SLIGHTLY WORSE FOR THE WEAR, IT WAS A FUN EXERCISE.

NEXT WEEK, LAURA WILL RETURN TO DO SOME HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES DEALING WITH POPULATION DENSITY ACROSS THE ARCHIPELAGO.

UPCOMING EVENTS

OUR FIRST LEARNING EXHIBITION OF THE SCHOOL YEAR WILL TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14 AT 5:30-7:00 IN GRACE. COME AND SEE DISPLAYS OF STUDENT WORK FROM PRESCHOOL THROUGH THE OLDEST GROUP. THE EXHIBIT WILL

DISPLAY WORK ACROSS
DISCIPLINES AND SUBJECT
MATTERS AND WILL
HIGHLIGHT CLASSROOM,
SPECIALS AND STUDENT
PROJECTS THAT WERE
COMPLETED DURING CYCLE
1. AT 6:15 THERE WILL BE A
MINI-CONCERT.

THERE WILL BE A PROGRAM
OF CLASSICAL MUSIC AND
DANCE FROM BALI,
INDONESIA ON SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 3RD, 2006, 3 PM IN
LANG CONCERT HALL AT
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE. THE
SHOW IS CO-DIRECTED BY NI
LUH KADEK KUSUMA DEWI, I
NYOMAN SUADIN, AND
THOMAS WHITMAN. THE
GAMELAN CONSISTS OF 7
DANCERS ACCOMPANIED BY
22 MUSICIANS PLAYING
GONGS, BRONZE-KEYED
XYLOPHONES, DRUMS,
CYMBALS, AND BAMBOO
FLUTES. THE PROGRAM WILL
INCLUDE A TRADITIONAL
GREETING DANCE USED IN
BALINESE HINDU TEMPLE
CEREMONIES; MUSIC FROM
THE BALINESE SHADOW
PLAY; TWO MODERN
INSTRUMENTAL
COMPOSITIONS IN
CONTRASTING STYLES; AND
A
LECTURE/DEMONSTRATION
ABOUT BALINESE MUSIC AND
DANCE. ADMISSION: FREE.
FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN
ARE WELCOME!

THE MAIN CIRCLE WILL BE
PARTICIPATING IN OUR OWN
SHADOW PUPPETRY AND
GAMELAN WORKSHOP WITH
THOMAS WHITMAN, I
NYOMAN SUADIN, LATIFAH
ALSEGAH AND MUSICIANS
FROM WASHINGTON, DC ON
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2006.
THE MUSICIANS WILL FIRST
DO A WORKSHOP WITH THE
MAIN CIRCLE AND THEN
WILL PERFORM IN AN
ASSEMBLY THAT WILL BE
OPEN TO THE WHOLE
SCHOOL AND ANY PARENTS
WHO WOULD LIKE TO COME!
IT SHOULD BE A WONDERFUL
AFTERNOON OF INDONESIAN
ART AND CULTURE. THE TIME
OF THE ASSEMBLY IS TBA
BUT WILL BEGIN SOMETIME
TOWARDS THE END OF THE
DAY.

HAVE A WONDERFUL
WEEKEND!

IN PARTNERSHIP,
ALI AND GLORIA