“Animals in the Wild” Family Festival

On Thursday, March 8th, about 220 Children’s School family members from 58 of our 71 families celebrated our whole school unit at our Animals in the Wild family festival. Families enjoyed talking with Lorren and Sandy from the Humane Animal Rescue League and observing two animal ambassadors, a wood turtle named Gustave and a box turtle named Rocky, watching them eat strawberries and greens, and learning about how they are adapted to their habitats. They also explored our classroom worms and specimens from the Carnegie Museum of Natural History with regular magnifying glasses and a digital “Zoomy”. Many families bravely watched a video clip of an owl regurgitating a pellet of undigested parts of the animals it had eaten, and then they dissected an “owl pellet” to see what bones they could recognize with the help of an identification chart.
More Animals in the Wild Activities

At the family festival, children showed their families the yoga poses they had been learning and taught the animal songs they had been singing, as well as playing a variety of favorite animal games that are part of our school collection or were invented by different groups of children. Also, the kindergartners prepared a scavenger hunt of animals they studied from habitats around the world. To add even more creativity, families could make animal headbands in the Blue Room, visit the office to get their photo taken, and work in the Make Shop to create their own animals with varied materials. Children could also make a bird feeder with cereal to take home to share with their neighborhood birds.