

PAPO'S TUESDAY WITH CHARLOTTE, August 30, 2011

Charlotte arrived at Heatherwood with an agenda. She had things planned. All I had to do was fit in and go with the flow!

After jumping out of the car, saying goodbye to Dana and Davis (who seemed a little delighted to have Dana all to himself, stretching his arms over his head, "so big" with noise!), Charlotte headed right for our neighbor's crepe myrtle tree, to climb of course.



Next on her agenda was picking flowers. She chose the white flowers near our steps to "make a bouquet for Mimi." She enjoyed a conversation with the honey bees while I fetched scissors for her to use (after asking her permission, of course). Then we added smaller orange flowers from Mimi's planters. Next, she chose a red rose from the bush that is trying to reach tree height, so I helped with that one.

Entering the house, she looked around for the proper vase to use and picked out a small vessel with holes around the top. We filled it with water and she instructed me not to overfill or it would leak out the holes!

Whew.

I turned on the stereo with Suzuki's Book One CD (prepared in advance). She took her violin out of the case (mine was already out and on the table) and proceeded to play all the songs with the totally correct bowing rhythms on the E and A strings! No left hand fingers needed, the CD and Papo did that for her!

At one point she moved her left hand down over the fingerboard and began moving her fingers around “like Joshua Bell!” (She loves Joshua Bell whom she met while watching Mimi Zweig’s “Circling Around” DVD.)

When the CD finished, she was through.

Next, she disappeared into the front bedroom and came out dressed in her swimming suit! Time for dress up! She said “I know what, let’s have a tea party. So tea party it was!



She got out everything, the table, the chairs, set it all up. Then used her favorite place settings from Mimi’s pottery shelves, filled her tea pot with water from the fridge – “Papo, can we use a water bottle, this is too hard (water on floor by then).” Sure thing, that worked better.

I moved a larger chair to my place and sat down, she returned from the kitchen with a small bag of Ritz Cheese Bits. “Papo, would get those scissors for me?” I asked for my own so out came another small bag of Ritz Cheese Bits. She used the scissors again, then showed me the correct way to eat them at a tea party.

“Papo, do this.” She demonstrated how to pull them apart and lick the cheese off! Suzuki CD playing the entire time.

Then, out comes her play phone that she calls her iPhone.



She took some pictures with her iPhone, just like Papo.

Then –



“Papo, I get calls too!”

After the tea party finished, she ran back into her bedroom for a change of clothes into her princess dress. “Papo, you need to dress up like a monster so you can chase me,” referring to her love of “Beauty and the Beast.”

After another trip to the bedroom she returned with “Chicken Little” and the Quackey Duck.



Time to snuggle (Suzuki CD playing the entire time!).

What fun!