

# Hovnanian Times



## THE GROWTH CYCLE

On Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011 the Hovnanian School's Second and Third Graders traveled through a corn maze and learned the meaning of the statement, "the getting there can be half the fun". As a way to draw together their science lessons on how plants grow and their class theme of "Let Freedom Ring", they visited Stony Hill Farms in Chatham, New Jersey.

While the breezes and colored leaves created a classic and crisp autumn day, the maze presented the children with a most unique experience, a corn maze of knowledge. Navigating through the maze, students needed to use their sense of direction combined with their knowledge of American History to reach their goal of the exit. Each child was challenged to tap into their problem solving skills and decode clues, pictures, and questions focused on topics like the Constitution, President Lincoln, and the Star Spangled Banner.

Surrounded by the fruits of the farmer's labor, the students connected with America's past. They entered the maze open to the possibilities that the experience could bring. Like newly planted seeds,



they thrived on the nurturing flow of information, growing like the corn that encircled them. Exiting the maze meant that they had succeeded. As they climbed into the bus headed for home, it was clear that the experience had taught them the deeper meaning of the word "grow". The field trip was a monumental success.

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