

Shark Class Newsletter

April 2020

We are well and truly into the semester now and preparing for the big Finale. Graduation. Most parents have arranged or have an idea of what the next step for their children will be, and now we are preparing for the transition into schooling. We will continue to work to a similar schedule and also start preparing for the final graduation play. There is little need to intensify the workload or homework and we will keep this the same as what the kids are used to. We are all looking forward to a productive month with new themes, new books/ stories and a new play.

Reading

The students have all been pointing and following during reading class, and although the material is easy for some kids, others are still struggling a bit, more so with the vocabulary which is unfamiliar to them since they are not practicing as much as their peers, both at home and at school (from missing this class at days end). I am a strong supporter of learning to read so we can read to learn. There is more to reading than just learning the language, the stories all have educating value and the children benefit from a broader knowledge through book interaction. I can't stress enough how important a little bit everyday can make a difference. Even just 5 minutes to read a short story, everyday will keep the brain aware of the language and the written form. Some progress is better than no progress.

Week 1 - "What can insects do?"

Week 2 - "Being Me"

Week 3 - "At Home in a Shell"

Week 4 - "Wind"

Core Material

Most of the students still find the core material quite easy to understand. The subject matter is covered in more detail in the other books we have been working through, but the stories at least provide some variety to concepts being taught and also some different usage for the same vocabulary.

In April we will start a new story and new set of phonics rules (although still a recap on long 'i' sounds). The story is "Time to Plant!" which falls in line nicely with the 'growing a bean plant' project we just did in March. And then at the end of the month we will start on "The Nice Mitten" with phonics rules for 'soft C and soft G'.

Phonics

We are still working through the same phonics book as usual and the routine exercises in the book has become easy for the students to follow and they enjoy engaging with them. Often they ask to do the allocated pages on their own and don't need any guidance, so I will cover the topic rules being questioned and then let the more impatient kids get on with it on their own, while helping those that still don't quite get it.

Our next set of topics that we will revise and introduce however are:

Vowel digraphs - 'au', 'aw',

Vowel diphthongs - 'oi', 'oy' and 'ew'

Workbook Jump 2

The kids have all enjoyed the exercises in this series, they are quite easy for them now, and when things are easy we enjoy completing them more than when it's too hard. Keeping things a little bit challenging in any case to make sure that we continue to progress nicely too. The students have a similar attitude to this book as they do with the phonics book and I will let them do on their own for exercises that I feel they are ready to do so, while helping those that need it.

Week 1: Days of the week, time revision

Week 2: When do they...? What time do you...?

Week 3: Questions with What time... and When...

Week 4: Furniture and Prepositions of place ('in' and 'on')

Writing

Write Now workbook provides topical subject matter to work with, more than it provides independent work through exercises. I have been trying to get the students to write smaller and on the lines, which has been a great difficulty for most. Some exercises require that we attach an extra page for the kids to write with.

This April we will be working through a treasure hunt theme using a variety of places in a town that have been learnt in vocabulary provided here and in all the other workbooks as well.

MPM Math (Multiple Practice Module)

The MPM Math series focuses a lot on a variety of daily problem solving strategies, not just math, although counting plays a large role in the functions of the guided stories through a variety of topics.

Week 1 – Cycling Sequence by shape, colors and directions.

Week 2 – Addition by shapes, colors and directions

Week 3 – Set Theory Groups of color coordinated shapes and objects

Week 4 – Cardinal Number counting

Spelling

You can help your children greatly by just simply reviewing the weekly list with them, sounding the word and spelling it together, at least just once a day and on weekends, not making a big deal of it or taking time out of your day, just quickly revise a word or two here and there will help plenty enough.

This months spelling vocabulary are:

Week 1: sauce, clue, haul, fault, yawn, pause, thread, shawl, breathe, fawn

Week 2: stood, spoon, hood, book, thaw, straw, wood, hoof, instead, sweater

Week 3: cone, coins, bow, crew, stew, screw, foul, few, toes, toy

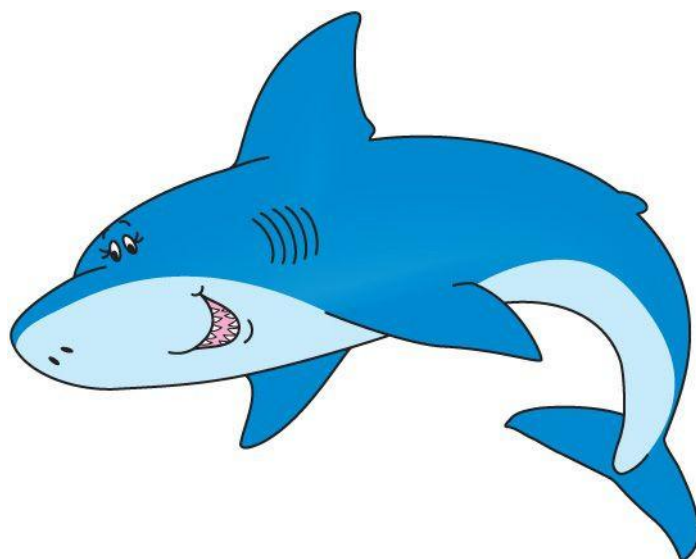
Week 4: about, because, drew, join, look, news, saw, spools, both, forty

Conclusion

I have been enjoying the ability to converse with a lot of the students in the Shark class. This comes as a privilege to have seen them grow in their English learning journey, from little or no English to actually having a fun chat about something interesting or funny. I hope they all continue to progress in much the same way as they have done and most importantly enjoy the process which can sometimes seem difficult and tedious. Don't give up, there is always a smooth road that follows the bumpy parts. I hope that all family and friends have remained safe and healthy so far during the whole viral scare and please everyone remain careful while it passes.

Thanks

Teacher Justin



Shark Class Newsletter

April 2020

我們即將要接近最後的一學期了呢，畢業的時間也快接近了。大部分鯊魚班的父母們已經在為孩子們的未來做好的計畫和打算了。目前，我們也在為一些對孩子為孩小學的選擇做協助和給建議。我們將持續按照學校的計畫開始要準備畢業典禮的戲劇表演囉。在這戲劇部分需要再增加和激勵孩子們多練習就和之前的戲劇練習一樣。我們期待能夠找到一本好的戲劇故事和點子，讓孩子們演出一部更創新的最後一部戲劇喔。

閱讀部分

孩子們在閱讀書本這一部分都已經能夠按著文字指著唸讀也能夠按照老師所引導的速度念完整文章囉。雖然，閱讀的教材對有些孩子來說有點簡單，但有些孩子還是需要再多加強，主要原因是有些單字對有些孩子來說沒有很熟悉，所以，必須透過在家再多加強練習和複習喔。我很鼓勵各位爸爸媽媽們在家陪同孩子們閱讀書本中的故事和學習內容中的文字，這是在教育中佔非常重要的一部分，我無法強求各位一定要每天陪同孩子們練習，但，每天花短短的 5 分鐘陪同孩子們唸讀，其實，真的對孩子們在學習語言上是非常有幫助的。

第一週 - "What can insects do?"

第二週 - "Being Me"

第三週 - "At Home in a Shell"

第四週 - "Wind"

主教材

大部分的孩子在這部分已經很熟悉，所以，對孩子們來說很簡單就能理解。課程內容有包含其他課本的主題，所以，都是已經有上過的了，但，有些字彙雖然是一樣的，不過，內容會增加一些多樣性的概念，讓孩子們把一樣的字彙另用在其他的句型上喔。

在四月裡，我會持續引導孩子們長音 i 的發音練習和新的課程內容，新主題內容是 "Time to Plant! 也剛好這主題，我提前讓孩子們在三月時先體驗種植物來做課程連結。四月的結束，我們會接新主題 "The Nice Mitten" 練習 'soft C and soft G'。

自然發音

我們持續在練習每一個字彙發音的規則性運用，在這部分，孩子們已經都很熟悉了，經常會有孩子說可不可以自己完成，已經不需要老師一題一題的指引了呢。所以，我會用問答的方式來協助那些需要老師協助下才能完成的孩子，也嘗試著讓比較無法自己完成的人學習慢慢自己完成。

以下課程內容:

母音結合- 'au', 'aw',

雙元音- 'oi', 'oy' and 'ew'

書寫 Jump 2

孩子們大部分都已經很熟悉此書的內容書寫方式了，對他們來說是有些簡單了。當內容對孩子們來說簡單其實讓孩子們學起來就不較不會太難。但，我也持續嘗試著讓孩子們有些小挑戰，讓孩子們自己寫寫看單獨完成題目，但還是有些孩子是需要一題一題協助才能夠完成喔。

第一週: Days of the week, time revision

第二週: When do they...? What time do you...?

第三週: Questions with What time... and When...

第四週: Furniture and Prepositions of place ('in' and 'on')

書寫

新書寫本，是以主題式的方式來讓孩子們提供多樣性的練習，我嘗試著讓孩子們把字體寫小並且不要超出線外，但有些孩子還是會寫超出線外。在四月裡，我們會將單字的學習套用在尋寶的放式來讓孩子們透過尋寶字彙中將文字套用到書寫本中的問題句回答喔。

MPM 數學

此本書透過了多樣性的問題來讓孩子們學習如何突破問題的解答。不是只有單單算術而已喔。會透過很多的指引工具和故事來引導孩子們學習。

第一週 – Cycling Sequence by shape, colors and directions.

第二週 – Addition by shapes, colors and directions

第三週 – Set Theory Groups of color coordinated shapes and objects

第四週 – Cardinal Number counting

拼音

各位爸爸媽媽如果有空其實週的可以花一些時間來幫助孩子們複習每一週的字彙喔。念單字的音並且將各個字母的音念拚再一起，和孩子們利用周末練習或是每天一點的練習都是對孩子們在記憶上是很有幫助的喔。

本月的單字:

第一週: sauce, clue, haul, fault, yawn, pause, thread, shawl, breathe, fawn

第二週: stood, spoon, hood, book, thaw, straw, wood, hoof, instead, sweater

第三週: cone, coins, bow, crew, stew, screw, foul, few, toes, toy

第四週: about, because, drew, join, look, news, saw, spools, both, forty

總結

在帶領和教育鯊魚班的孩子們過程中，我已經慢慢地抓的每個孩子們的個別需求，我發現孩子們學習英文這條路上都是有慢慢的在進步的，而在和孩子們互動過程都非常的有趣呢。我希望我和孩子們在每天的上課過程裡都會有不同的樂趣，不是只有單單課程讓人有點無趣，也希望在肺炎流行中，大家都能夠好好保持建綱的身體，出門在外都要注意小心喔。謝謝。

Teacher Justin