



Dinosaur Class Monthly Newsletter

October 2020

Hello Dinosaur Class Parents,

The kids in dinosaur class are a great mixture of enthusiasm, energy, focus and a large amount of other positive characteristics. There is also a little bit of distraction and rule testing that tends to put a spanner in the works. While we have ironed out a lot of the behaviour creases to a somewhat smoother feel, there is still plenty of time wasted on the smaller but consistently misbehaved moments. I hope to see the class run even more smoothly while balancing fun and obedience all the while. If students obey more seamlessly then we can accomplish more in a shorter time, but while we still need to chase kids with repeated instructions then we waste time calling individuals to react to orders and pushing others to finish. As I mentioned in the weekly comments before, parents can help greatly by allowing their children to do more chores at home, if they are given tasks and allowed to complete them (which allows for a lot of patience testing I know) then they will learn to focus on a task and get ready for the next thing.

Reading

The reading class is still heavily focused on point and say as a group, but we have also moved the focus from the book onto the board, for some lessons, to have students stand one at a time and point at words on the board as the rest of the class read them aloud.

This has brought a little entertainment into the read and also keeps the stronger readers engaged in the lesson.

Please continue to pick up books already read and taken home, word recognition will progress with consistency and practice, for those struggling but keeping at it will hit lightbulb moments for the older books and they will pick them up and read them easily and quickly, eventually. Also this keeps them fresh in the memory for the reading contest when the day comes.

This month we will be picking up these books:

Week 1: I Love Trees

Week 2: My Costume

Week 3: The Dog Show

Week 4: Rain! Rain!

Core Material

I have not put much emphasis on the McGraw-Hill book this month and have instead decided to use this class to improve on writing. The material in Anthology is very similar to Workbook which we have been through together and covers the same themed short 'a' sound. I have also read over and talked about the story with the kids briefly and feel although they could practice more with it, there is not as great an importance as with phonics and writing, for now.

In October we will use Workbook again, but I will divide attention the same until writing shows natural progression and kids follow the stroke rules independently.

Week 1 - 4: Workbook (Reading/ discussion)

- Short 'i'
- Story: "Six Kids"

Phonics

We continue to cover a lot of ground in phonics, and I have begun stronger emphasis on this subject to help improve pronunciation and also reading strategy. The book provides a good guide to hearing sounds and matching pictures, and is also helping improve vocabulary. Short vowel sounds have and will be themed for a few months, before moving onto long vowel sounds, blends and digraphs. So the use of cvc words and longer repetition exercises have become more routine and we practice daily, I want the kids to master short vowels before moving on, this is a cornerstone to learning phonetic strategy and if they can not get this right now, then they will struggle with later material.

This coming month we will look into

Week 1: Double consonants ('ff', 'ss', 'tt' and others)

Week 2: Letter sound in middle of longer words

Week 3: Short 'a' continued

Week 4: Revision

Workbook Jump

The exercises in the Jump book have been fairly easy for the kids to catch onto, as they are much the same as what they've done before, with matching lines and picking out the correct answers by circling or coloring in. The material covered seems simple at first but for the kids to really understand and move forward with a solid foundation of the concepts, they will need a lot of repetition and practice with a wide variety of uses. Most of what is taught can be used daily though for the likes of 'it is...' or 'isn't' or plural and numbers and 'a' vs 'an'. So for the next month we will do much of the same and expand on singular vs plural with new vocabulary (for spelling purposes, as they should already be familiar with pencil and eraser and so on).

Week 1: School supplies vocabulary and singular vs. plural

Week 2: 'They are...' and 'They aren't...' and the questions associated with them

Week 3: 'What are they?' and 'What is it?'

Week 4: Spelling and review

MPM Math (Multiple Practice Module)

The boxset hasn't had much daylight this month with the types of activities only requiring colour association to shapes and properties already provided in the book and with exercises done on the board. Some of the kids are excited to start the MPM class and are often disappointed when the boxes don't follow. This next month however we will begin to open the box more often and see how the students fair with focus on the lesson and not be too inclined to play with the parts in the box.

This month we will look at the following topics:

Week 1: Basic number counting under 10 by shapes and color

Week 2: Basic concept of separation and combination of shapes

Week 3: Spatial concept 'inside, outside, left and right'

Week 4: Review and catch up

Conclusion

This concludes the Dinosaur Class Newsletter for October. It feels like a lot of progress is being made with all the students, both with behaviour and academics. They have all adapted nicely to the new environment and new teachers, it is safe to say the kids don't feel like we are new teachers anymore and they are more accustomed to how we approach daily routine and rules.

Thank you to all the parents for your continued support in helping the children become better students and better people. They are wonderful to work with and a pleasure to teach.

As always, I am open to concerns and suggestions, please feel free to ask anything anytime and I will try my best to accommodate any requests.

Thank you,

Teacher Justin



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親愛的恐龍的家長們，您好！

恐龍班的孩子充滿熱情、活力，專注且有積極的特質，但孩子們還是會對事物分心以及常規需要花時間建立。雖然孩子們已經進步了很多，但還是浪費許多時間在較小的常規建立上。我希望課程是更順利地進行且充滿樂趣在其中。如果孩子們可以遵守常規，我們可以在更短的時間內完成更多工作，雖然在過程我們仍然需要反覆指導孩子，且需要時間一直提醒孩子按照指示並遵守。正如我之前在每週評論中提到的那樣，爸爸媽咪們可以透過讓孩子們做一些日常的事來培養他們這個能力（我知道可能過程中需要很多耐心），但他們將學會如何專注於一事物，並為下一件事做好準備。

閱讀課

閱讀課重點還是放在「指讀」，但我們也從書本閱讀改到將重點單字放在白板上閱讀，讓孩子們透過在白板上指讀，而其餘的人一起大聲閱讀，這為閱讀帶來了一些娛樂，並且激發他們對閱讀的動力。

請繼續將帶回家的書再拿出來熟悉一番，單字的熟悉度是靠不斷的練習，因為持續地複習孩子們在每次都可以快速地進入並輕鬆閱讀。這些印象深刻的記憶也同時為接下來的閱讀競賽做準備。

本月，我們將認識這些書：

Week 1: I Love Trees

Week 2: My Costume

Week 3: The Dog Show

Week 4: Rain! Rain!

核心教材

本月對此書沒有過多強調，而是利用來加強寫作能力。Anthology 中的材料與我們所使用的 Workbook 非常相似，且我們一起學過，其中涵蓋了相同主題的簡短“a”聲音。我也閱讀過並和孩子們簡短討論過此故事，且可以在練習更多，儘管這個的比重沒有像 phonics 和寫作一樣多。在 10 月，我們將再次使用 workbook，但我會分散一些重心到寫作讓孩子們可以知道一些規則且獨立完成。

Week 1 - 4: Workbook (閱讀/討論)

- Short 'i'

- Story: "Six Kids"

Phonics

我們繼續在 Phonics 領域涉獵更多，我已經開始更加強調這部分，以幫助提高發音還有閱讀策略。這本書提供了一個很好的學習指示和圖片的配對，另外也有助於改善詞彙。短母音的部分會繼續進行數月後，並延伸使用多音節。因此，使用 cvc 和多音節會變得很常接觸且每天都需要練習，我希望孩子們在繼續之前先掌握短母音，這是學習語音策略，如果他們現在無法掌握，那麼他們在接下來的課程會非常吃力。

接下來的一個月我們將討論

第 1 周：雙輔音 ("ff", "ss", "tt" 和其他)

第 2 週：較長的單詞中間出現字母音

第 3 週：繼續簡短的 "a"

第 4 周：調整

Workbook Jump

Workbook Jump 中的練習對於孩子們來說較為簡單，因為它們與以前所做的幾乎相同。連線並通過畫圈或塗色來找出正確的答案。剛開始時很簡單，但是對於孩子來說，要真正理解概念並扎實的基礎上，他們將需要大量重複和練習。大部分教學內容每天都可以使用，例如“它是...”或“不是”或複數和數字以及“a”與“an”之類的東西。因此，在下個月，我們將做很多相同的事情，並使用新詞彙擴展單數或複數（出於拼寫目的，因為他們應該已經熟悉鉛筆和橡皮擦等）。

第 1 周：學校用品詞彙，單數與複數

第 2 週：“他們是...”和“他們不是...”以及與之相關的問題

第 3 週：“他們是什麼？”和“這是什麼？”

第 4 週：拼寫和複習

MPM 數學（多練習模塊）

在 9 月使用盒子教材並不多，活動類型只需要將顏色與書中已經提供的形狀和屬性相關聯，並在白板上進行練習即可。一些孩子對開始 MPM 課感到很興奮，因此當他們知道不需要使用盒子的教材時他們會有點失落。但是，下個月我們將開始頻繁地打開包裝盒，看看孩子們是否了解課程目的並專注於課本的學習，而不是太傾向於玩包裝盒中的零件。

本月我們將研究以下主題：

第 1 週：按形狀和顏色計算的基本數字小於 10。

第 2 週：分離和組合形狀的基本概念

第 3 週：“內部，外部，左側和右側”的空間概念

第 4 週：回顧並趕上

結論

上述為 10 月計劃表部分。感覺到孩子們在行為和學習上都有很大的進步。他們在新環境和新老師上都有良好的適應，可以肯定地說，孩子們也與我們越來越有默契並漸漸熟悉，他們也更習慣於我們如何處理日常工作和規則。感謝所有的父母一直以來的支持，以幫助孩子們成為更好的學生和更好的人。他們樂於學習及開心學習。

與往常一樣，我很樂意接受建議，請隨時提出任何問題，我將盡力滿足所有要求。

謝謝！

Justin