



Dinosaur Class Monthly Newsletter

November 2020

Hello Dinosaur Class Parents,

October was a busy month, as are most months at Marshall School, with a big ending celebrating Halloween. The Dinosaur class students have been doing well to try follow all of their teachers instructions, there are a few moments here and there where students have forgotten the routine and rules, but gentle reminders keep them on their toes as we go.

Class time is becoming more of a dedicated time and kids are not messing around as much to get settled and ready to learn. Likewise finishing classes has also become more efficient, although the motivation to play is very strong here.

All the rules setting and getting used to routine however has set us back a little in the bookwork schedule, but this is also due to extra time being spent on improving writing and oral phonics. The pages number only 3 or 4, and we will catch them up quickly, I am sure.

Reading

We are still practicing in much the same way as before, but only with varying amounts of time spent on each of the board, games and actual point and read.

Pointing to words has improved dramatically over the past couple months. And those who have been trying to sound words, count and point accurately have clearly benefited the most. Other students who concentrate less so are falling behind and as the pace quickens, this gap may increase. While I try my best to chase after all students to follow suite, this is not always possible, and kids enjoy deceptively obeying to avoid being singled out. During word recognition activities it is not possible to 'pretend following' and this is when all the cracks shine for those who have not been.

I would like to ask for the continued assistance from parents to read books at home, for those that do, at times it can be hard to see the progress when alongside it, but like watching children grow, when you don't see them a short while, it is shocking how much bigger they get, and those that see them everyday don't realise it as much. Their reading ability grows in profound ways, from just a very little practice every week. And those that don't only provide a point in relative difference for others progress. Like one person walking and the other sitting still, one will move some distance while the other goes nowhere.

This month we will be doing a lot of drama play practice, and most reading comes from their lines in the play. We do however read "Is it a Baby Animal?" at the end of the month, after the drama play.

Week 1: Prepare for Drama Play

Week 2: Prepare for Drama Play

Week 3: Prepare for Drama Play

Week 4: "Is it a Baby Animal?"

Core Material

With a couple stories to catch up on in this subject, we will be able to spruce up the reading practice for the month while reviewing the phonics rules from them too. Also I plan to break up and spread out drama play practice between reading and core material classes with 10-15min intervals of rehearsals and the remainder in lessons. This tends to work quite well as an extra distraction and the kids don't lose concentration as easily.

Phonics

This subject has remained at the frontline of my teaching strategy, and the kids are listening more intently to the sounds of words and throughout. When they get a better grasp of what they hear and make better connections to the sounds of letters, then they really start to accelerate their learning. Spelling becomes easier, reading and word recognition also, and pronunciation all start reaching fluency.

For now we will focus on the building blocks behind these goals and solidify short vowels, this month we will continue with short 'i' and then hopefully introduce short 'o' before December. All the while practicing a wide range of consonant sounds to make all these cvc words a reality.

This coming month we will look into

Week 1: Short 'a' words in sentences

Week 2: Short 'i' words to pictures

Week 3: Blending phonemes

Week 4: Spelling and writing short 'i' words

Workbook Jump

Jump gives great daily grammar practice and usage. We have been trying to and continue to revise the use of 'a' vs 'an' for vowel sound starting words and also the use of 'they/it' and 'is/are' for both questions and answers to statements about a variety of nouns both singular and plural. We have also expanded on the negative forms as well with contractions too, ('are not' / 'aren't') and this month we will continue with the singular contractions and the negative form ('is not' / 'isn't'), plus a variety of revision before and after a series of drama practices.

Week 1: new vocabulary

Week 2: "Yes, it is. No, it isn't"

Week 3: What color is.. ? It's....

Week 4: Review

MPM Math (Multiple Practice Module)

MPM has had a fair amount of enthusiasm shared during lesson time, the colors and pictures all make for excitement that the kids really enjoy. We covered a great many critical thinking concepts that seem a bit complicated for kindergarten level at times, but then the kids all show a good

understanding by the end of it. This month we will finish off the remainder of what has fallen behind a bit, but concentrate mostly on drama play practice.

Thank you,
Teacher Justin



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恐龍班的家長們，

按照瑪歇爾的每年慣例，十月是一個繁忙的月份，而以慶祝萬聖節做為結束。恐龍班的學生一直做得很好，可以按照老師的所有指示去做。但在一些課堂間轉化的時間，他們會忘記老師剛剛給的只是，而有些興奮，這時只要稍微地提醒他們，寶貝們是可以馬上了解該做什麼。

上課時間越來越有效率，不會花很多時間去維持秩序，寶貝們很快準備好就開始學習。同樣，完成比賽也變得更有效率，儘管在這裡比賽的動機非常強烈。

然而，所有規則的設定和習慣性習慣使我們在書本安排上有些退縮，但這也是由於花了更多的時間來改善寫作和口頭語音。頁數只有3或4，我敢肯定，我們會盡快趕上它們。

寶貝們也對活動的參與度越來越有動力。然而，因為建立一些常規習慣且我們在口語表達及寫作也花了些時間，因此在一些課程上面大致有3-4頁還沒完成，不過爸爸媽咪們別擔心，我敢肯定，我們會趕上進度的。

閱讀

閱讀部分我們一樣和以前幾乎相同的方式進行練習，但是在團討區中，遊戲和實際的指讀上花費的時間卻有所不同。

在過去的幾個月中，指讀的方式發揮效用。那些一直在努力發音，確實並指出的人顯然受益最大。其他專注度較低的學生會落在後面，並且隨著步伐的加快，差距可能會增加。雖然我盡力追趕所有學生的進度達到平衡，但還是無法避免這樣的事。寶貝們會希望趕快完成而去做自由活動因此他們不會希望留下加強做練習。因為在指讀的單詞識別活動中，“假裝跟隨”是不可能的。

我想請父母繼在家中協助寶貝們閱讀，有時候和父母在一起時很難看到進步，但是就像看著孩子長大，短暫是看不出成效的，但長久拉遠來看，會有意想不到的效果，而每天看到他們的人卻沒有意識到。每週只需花一些時間練習，他們的閱讀能力就會以深遠的方式增長。而這些努力不僅為他人的進步提供更好的助益。

這個月我們將進行大量的戲劇表演練習，並且大多數閱讀來自戲劇中的台詞。但是會於月底話劇結束之後，閱讀“Is it a Baby Animal?”

第一週: 練習話劇表演

第二週: 練習話劇表演

第三週: 練習話劇表演

第四週: “Is it a Baby Animal?”

主教材

在這個月我們利用一些有關該主題的故事，除了可以閱讀練習，同時也可以復習他們的語音規則。另外，我計劃在閱讀和主教材課之間進行排練，並在每堂課10-15分鐘的時間裡進行排練，其餘時間安排在課堂上。這種做法會起到很好的分散注意力的作用，而且孩子們不會像以前那樣容易失去注意力。

Phonics

這門課一直是我教學策略的重中之重，孩子們更專心地聽著單詞的發音，甚至貫穿整個過程。當他們更理解所聽到的內容並與字母的發音建立更好的聯繫時，他們才真正開始加速學習。拼寫也變得更容易，閱讀和單詞識別也變得容易，發音就開始達到流利程度。

目前，我們將專注於實現這些目標的基礎。本月我們將繼續練習短“i”，然後希望在12月之前帶入短“o”。一直以來，練習各種各樣的輔音使所有這些單詞更加流暢的使用。

接下來的一個月我們將了解

第一周：句子中簡短的“a”字

第二週：圖片中簡短的“i”字

第三週：混合音

第四週：拼寫和寫簡短的“i”字

Jump

Jump提供出色的日常文法練習和用法。我們一直在嘗試並繼續“a”和“an”的使用，以及針對各種陳述的問題和答案的“the / it”和“is / are”使用單數和復數名詞的集合。我們還在否定句形式上也增加了變化，（‘不是’/‘沒有’），本月我們將繼續討論以及一些戲劇的練習。

第一周：新詞彙

第2週：“是的，是的。不，不是”

第3週：什麼顏色？它的...

第四周：回顧

MPM數學（多練習模塊）

MPM在上課期間寶貝們對此非常的熱情，所有的顏色和圖片都讓孩子們真正喜歡上了且相當興奮。我們涵蓋了很多批判性思維概念，這些概念有時對於幼兒園而言似乎有點複雜，但是到那時，孩子們對它們都表現出了很好的理解。本月我們將結束剩下的一些不足，但主要集中在戲劇練習上。

謝謝

Tr. Justin