



Monkey Class Monthly Newsletter May 2021

Dear Parents,

I think the highlight of April was definitely the field trip Marshall took to the Flying Cow Ranch- at least I thought it was a good time! It was a great bonding experience for everyone in Monkey class. I feel like the children learned a lot and I got to see more of their personalities outside of school-which was awesome. I hope that was a memorable experience for all the kids, even if a few of them thought the best part of the trip was the bus ride! This month in May our focus is going to be on the drama play. I have been practicing with them and all the children are having a really fun time with their lines. I am glad they find my writing humorous because I didn't want it to be too serious. I hope you all will enjoy the play as well; I am excited for the turnout! We are also focusing on other long vowel sounds in class. We have completed long-a and long-i and are moving on to o and u. I am constantly amazed by how fast the kids process things, and their incredible ability to remember! I hope to continue on this trajectory of learning, it has been really rewarding to see Monkey class's progress over the last few months. Thanks for all your help and encouragement at home. I appreciate it!

Sincerely,
Jennifer

Reading

There has been a significant change in our reading routine this last month and I think it has gotten Monkey class in a steady groove to improve reading all around. I started reading the books a few times with everyone with their fingers pointing at the words. I have made this into a fun game by doing finger stretching exercises with the kids everyday. After this, they take their books to their desk and I play another game where they need to find and circle certain words. I will usually pick words that we are learning about (long vowels) or words that create a proper sentence structure

(noun, adjective, verb, etc.). The kids seem to enjoy this game a lot and it has helped them with their word recognition as well.

Week 1: Who Needs Water

Week 2: Drama Play Rehearsal

Week 3: Drama Play Rehearsal

Week 4: Sleepy Bear

Phonics

We ended phonics last month with learning long-i vowel sounds vs. short-i vowel sounds. We are a bit behind in the phonics books, and I skipped over the long-i vowels in the last newsletter, so we will actually be targeting long-o vowel sounds this month. We had some opportunities in the book to create sentences using long-i words, and the kids well with this. I am really proud of how fast they understood the differences between short and long vowel sounds, especially because they are all slightly different. (i_e, igh, ie). This makes me feel confident that the other long vowels will be easier for them to catch on. It is great to see Monkey class level up with their learning!

Week 1: Long Vowel O- Reading Comprehension (o_e, oa, ow)

Week 2: Phonetic Long O in Sentences

Week 3: Phonetic Short O (Connecting Sounds to Symbol)

Week 4: Word Building with Long O vowels

Core Material

We are officially onto the new Anthology and Workshop textbooks; I sent home the old books with the kids. I hope that if you ever have time at home, you can pull out these materials and have your child read them to you. This way they can always review and not forget so quickly. I read through each book 2 times with them and most everyone was able to read the majority of the text on their own, so I felt comfortable sending it home with them. Again, I feel like these books are a bit underrated, but I feel like they are the perfect level to gage how our class is doing. This month we will be continuing onward, I am treating this class much like reading and making sure each student is using their fingers and engaged during. It helps to have discussions together as a class as well and it becomes a fun time for them to ask questions and share to parts that they relate with.

Week 1: Unit 2-1 Reading (Map It)

Week 2: Unit 2-1 Reading (Firefighters at Work)

Week 3: Unit 2-1 Workshop (Our Community)

Week 4: Unit 2-1 Workshop (Good Job, Ben! short e)

Conversation

Last month we were focusing on Unit 5 in our Jump textbook. We learned about sentence structure, how to answer questions in complete sentences, the difference between plural and singular, colors, numbers, and even about furniture and rooms. I think the kids really enjoy this book, as do I because I think it does a good job keeping things light and fun for everyone. This

month I am aiming to finish Unit 6 and depending on how well the kids do, move on to Unit 7 if we have time. We will be learning how to spell correctly, as well as how to converse in a proper manner. I am also going to be teaching them the use of commas and apostrophes in shortening sentences and words. This is challenging but I have faith Monkey class can understand the basics pretty quickly!

Week 1: Spelling and Location of Toys (There is, There's)

Week 2: Asking and Answering (Is/Isn't, Use of Question Mark)

Week 3: Puzzle Chest in the Garden (Animals, Plants, Colors, Numbers)

Week 4: Using Numbers and Plurals to Answer (Are/ Aren't)

Songs and Movement

Our focus for the majority of this month will be songs for our drama play. I started the process of picking some songs last month, and narrowing down the selection based on what the kids were excited about. Monkey class has got the lyrics down for "Ready, Aim, Fire" and "We Will Rock You"- now we will be choreographing a dance to go with each song so they can perform it for the drama play. I am undecided about using a third song or not, but I will communicate to you if I end up picking one fitting for our play.

Week 1 Ready, Aim, Fire

Week 2: We Will Rock You

Week 3: Hakuna Matata

Week 4: One Elephant Went Out to Play

Math

We were a bit ahead on MPM material this month in Monkey class- everyone is doing so well with these concepts! It has honestly become a breeze to get through this portion of class because all the kids really have no issues understanding what is being taught. I am so proud of them and they blow my mind sometimes on how quick they are to grasp the material. We are working on D4 this month but I feel like it will be easy for the children again. If we have time to spare, I will use that time to practice phonics or writing sentence structure so they can improve on those subjects as well.

Week 1: WB D4 (Combination and Separation of Numbers)

Week 2: WB D4 (Spatial Description)

Week 3: WB D4 (Set Theory)

Week 4: WB D4 (Drawing and Writing Numbers)

Thematic Activity

International Culture Continued

We have another month of international culture ahead. I think it is important that the kids learn about other countries and cultures. I feel like they enjoy these subjects as well. I was responsible for the thematic activity during the last two weeks of April. I picked the 3D pyramid because I

thought it was a good and fun way to incorporate new words for Monkey class. They had fun coloring the desert, and gluing the pyramids onto the background. However, I have learned that cutting is still a bit difficult for them. So, I will continue to include more cutting practice if we have some free time in the afternoons.

Physical Education

I have been trying to incorporate more yoga during our P.E. classes this past month. I feel like yoga is a great way to get the kids to stretch and be physical, but also sometimes it's good to regulate their breathing and emotions. I know some of the kids have fun when we do yoga, but others are way to hyper to actually try to even began to still their minds and bodies. So then after some yoga, I move on to something else to get their hearts pumping as well. I have found this is a delicate balance and I think it is a good regiment that I will like to continue if possible. I like to gage how Monkey class feels to see what is needed for each P.E. class. I will be trying some relay races and teamwork activities with them this month, as well as another attempt on the infamous parachute.

Warm Regards,
Jennifer



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親愛的父母，

我認為四月的最精彩的是瑪歇爾去飛牛場的實地考察——至少我認為這是個好時機！這是一個偉大的結合經驗，在猴子班的每個人。我覺得孩子們學到了很多東西，我在學校外看到了更多的他們的個性，這是非常棒的。我希望這是所有孩子們難忘的經歷，即使他們中的一些人認為這次旅行的最好部分是乘公共汽車！這個月我們的重點是戲劇劇。我一直在和他們一起練習，所有的孩子們都在用臺詞玩得很開心。我很高興他們覺得我的寫作幽默，因為我不想太嚴肅。我希望你們大家也能喜歡這部戲；我為投票而興奮！我們也在上課時關注其他長母音。我們已經完成了長期和長期的任務，並將繼續向 o 和 u。我不斷驚訝於孩子們處理事物的速度有多快，他們不可思議的記憶能力！我希望繼續沿著這條學習的軌道，看到猴子班在過去幾個月裏的進步，真的是很有收穫。感謝您在家裡的幫助和鼓勵。我很感激！

Jennifer

閱讀

上個月，我們的閱讀習慣有了很大的改變，我認為這讓猴子課進入了一個穩定的狀態，全面提高了閱讀能力。我開始讀了幾遍書，每個人都用手指著這些詞。我每天和孩子們一起做手指伸展運動，把它變成了一個有趣的遊戲。之後，他們把書拿到書桌上，我玩另一個遊戲，他們需要找到並圈出特定的單詞。我通常會選擇我們正在學習的單詞（長母音）或創建適當句子結構的單詞（名詞、形容詞、動詞等）。孩子們似乎很喜歡這個遊戲，它也幫助他們識別單詞。

第 1 週：誰需要水

第 2 週：戲劇排練

第 3 週：戲劇排練

第 4 週：瞌睡熊

自然拼讀法

我們上個月結束了語音學習長 i 母音和短 i 母音。我們在語音書籍中落後了一點，我跳過了上一篇新

間稿中的長 i 母音，所以我們將在這個月針對長 o 母音。我們在書中有一些機會用長 i 字來創建句子，孩子們對此很滿意。我真的很自豪他們能很快理解短母音和長母音之間的區別，特別是因為它們都略有不同（我，呃，我。這讓我相信其他長母音對他們來說會更容易被抓住。看到猴子們的學習水準提高是非常好的！

第 1 週：長母音 o-閱讀理解

第 2 週：句子中的語音長 o

第 3 週：語音短 o（將聲音連接到符號）

第 4 週：用長 o 母音構建單詞

核心教材

我們正式進入新的選集和工作坊教科書；我和孩子們一起把舊書寄回家了。我希望如果你有時間在家，你可以拿出這些資料，讓你的孩子讀給你聽。這樣他們就可以隨時複習，不會那麼快忘記。我和他們一起把每本書讀了兩遍，大多數人都能自己閱讀大部分的課文，所以我覺得把它們寄回家很舒服。同樣，我覺得這些書有點被低估了，但我覺得它們是衡量我們班表現的完美標準。這個月我們將繼續下去，我對待這門課就像閱讀，並確保每個學生都在使用他們的手指和參與過程中。作為一個班級一起討論也很有幫助，而且對於他們來說，提出問題和分享與之相關的部分也成為了一個有趣的時間。

第 1 週：第 2-1 單元閱讀（地圖）

第 2 週：第 2-1 單元閱讀（消防員在工作）

第 3 週：2-1 單元研討會（我們的社區）

第 4 週：2-1 單元研討會（幹得好，本！短 e）

對話

上個月，我們在 Jump 教科書中專注於單元 5。我們了解了句子的結構，如何用完整的句子回答問題，複數和單數，顏色，數字之間的差異，甚至關於家具和房間。我認為孩子們確實喜歡這本書，我也一樣，因為我認為這對保持每個人的生活輕鬆愉快很有效。本月我的目標是完成第 6 單元，並根據孩子的表現，如果有時間，請繼續學習第 7 單元。我們將學習如何正確拼寫，以及如何以正確的方式進行交談。我還將教他們使用逗號和撇號來縮短句子和單詞。這是具有挑戰性的，但是我有信心 Monkey 班可以很快地了解基本知識！

第 1 週：拼寫和玩具的位置（有，有）

第 2 週：提問和回答（是/不是，用問號）

第 3 週：益智胸部花園（動物，植物，顏色，數字）

第 4 週：使用數字和復數來回答（是/不是）

歌曲和運動

我們這個月大部分時間的重點將是我們戲劇的歌曲。上個月我開始挑選一些歌曲，並根據孩子們的興奮程度縮小了選擇範圍。猴子班已經為"準備，瞄準，火"和"我們將搖滾你"的歌詞下來 - 現在我們將編排一個舞蹈去與每首歌，使他們能夠執行它的戲劇發揮。我還沒有決定使用第三首歌與否，但我會與你溝通，如果我最終拿起一個適合我們的發揮。

第 1 週：準備，瞄準，火

第 2 週：我們會震撼你

第 3 週：哈庫納·馬塔塔

第 4 週：一頭大象出去玩

數學

本月在猴子課上，我們在 MPM 資料方面領先了一點——每個人都很好地掌握了這些概念！老實說，通過這部分課程已經成為一件輕而易舉的事，因為所有的孩子在理解所教的東西方面都沒有問題。我為他們感到驕傲，他們有時會讓我大吃一驚：他們掌握資料的速度有多快。這個月我們在做 D4，但我覺得對孩子們來說會很容易的。如果我們有時間的話，我會利用這段時間來練習語音或寫句子結構，這樣他們也能在這些科目上有所提高。

第 1 週：WB D4（數位的組合和分離）

第 2 週：WB D4（空間描述）

第 3 週：WB D4（集合論）

第 4 週：WB D4（繪圖和書寫數位）

主題活動

國際文化繼續進行

我們還有一個月的國際文化來臨。我認為讓孩子們了解其他國家和文化很重要。我覺得他們也喜歡這些科目。我負責四月的最後兩個星期的主題活動。我選擇 3D 金字塔是因為我認為這是為 Monkey 類添加新單詞的好方法。他們在為沙漠著色和將金字塔粘貼到背景上玩得很開心。但是，我了解到切割仍然對他們來說有點困難。因此，如果我們下午有空的話，我將繼續包括更多的剪裁練習。

體育

我在過去一個月的體育課上一直在嘗試著融入更多的瑜伽。我覺得瑜伽是讓孩子們舒展身體的好方法，但有時候調節呼吸和情緒也是很好的。我知道有些孩子在做瑜伽時很開心，但有些孩子卻在試圖保持頭腦和身體的狀態。所以，在瑜伽之後，我又開始做些別的事情，讓他們的心也得到了跳動。我發現這是一個微妙的平衡，我認為這是一個好的團，我將繼續，如果可能。我喜歡量測猴子班的感覺，看看每個體育課需要什麼。我將在這個月和他們一起嘗試一些接力比賽和團隊合作活動，以及對臭名昭著的降落傘的另一次嘗試。

Warm Regards,

Jennifer