

## Hippo Class Newsletter April 2022

Dear parents,

I hope everyone had a joyful Children's Day, a relaxing holiday; and are all ready for an exciting month full of special events, learning, and growing. This month we will be exploring new books to expand our reading skills and vocabulary. We will be covering new topics in our Core Material books, which kids often find relatable. We will also continue to develop our understanding of grammar and phonics with our books. Furthermore, we are starting to prepare for the drama play, which as we've learned from the previous semester, kids enjoy and have a passion for it. Furthermore, we will have Easter Activity Day, on this day we will learn about Easter through fun outdoor activities, if the weather allows for it.

Thank you,  
Teacher Alan.

### Reading

In our class, we put a lot of emphasis on our reading skills. We believe it's an important skill to develop early in order to develop other fundamental skills. This month, we will focus on nature-themed books, which won't only be educational, but also be interesting for them; hopefully, this will help them learn much more effortlessly.

Week 1: Wind

Week 2: Who Needs Water?

Week 3: At Home in a Shell

Week 4: What Can Insects Do?

### Core material

In this part of the class, we start with a topic, which we expand with new vocabulary and knowledge that kids enjoy. We start by finding out what they already know about the topic, followed by learning new vocabulary and conclude with a reading activity that does a great job at teaching kids more about the topic. This month we'll be covering the topic of what we can do with our bodies; this topic is great as kids approach a time in their lives where they start to be aware of their motor skills; this topic is intended to be relatable to the kids' due to the fact that they can identify with the topic as they can see things they do themselves.

Week 1-4: Unit Week 5 Workshop

### Math

I'm encouraged to teach math with our material, MPM books, and boxes. These are great tools for kids to explore math as an interactive subject. These months we will start with the next book, level D. This book becomes more challenging as they need to pay closer attention to details and focus more. This is a subject we need to improve on as kids

mistake it for a leisure class at times, but we are determined to change that. This month will help the development of the kids' critical-thinking skills.

Week 1: Teacher's Guide pgs. 17-18, Workbook D3 pgs. 7-12

Week 2: Teacher's Guide pgs. 19-22, Workbook D3 pgs. 13-18

Week 3: Teacher's Guide pgs. 23-26, Workbook D4 pgs. 1-5

Week 4: Prepare for drama

### **Grammar**

Our grammar section of the class is crucial to building proper sentences and vocabulary from an early stage. It, not only, teaches them to think and speak in a correct manner; but it also covers writing properly and with proper rules. This month we will learn about capabilities using the auxiliary verb 'can.' This includes statements and questions about what people can do; for example: "I can \_\_\_\_\_." and "Can she \_\_\_\_\_?" This will help kids differentiate the concept of 'can' and 'may' which kids use interchangeably.

Week 1: catchup &review

Week 2: pg 70-71 + WB pg 35

Week 3: pg 72-73 + WB pg 36

Week 4: pg 74-75 + WB pg 37

### **Phonics**

We are currently working on writing and pronouncing letters. This month we will focus on writing neatly and working on our hand-eye coordination. Hand-eye coordination is an underestimated aspect of a child's growth and development, and it is something that will show results down the road. This month we will continue to learn about long vowel sounds of the letters 'i' and 'o.' This will help kids make the connection and find patterns when reading and recognizing words. We will be learning about the 'i\_e', 'ie' and 'igh' sounds along with the 'o\_e', 'oa' and 'ow' sounds for the long 'O' sounds.

Week 1: review

Week 2: pg. 185-189

Week 3: pg. 192-195

Week 4: pg. 196-199

### **Handwriting**

Our handwriting part of the class is quite new to kids, but we are working on the repetition aspect of it to improve it. We will continue to use tracing and repetition techniques, in order to build muscle memory when writing these letters. This semester we will start using a new book with a set course guide which we will follow. This book doesn't only focus on the skill of writing, but also reinforces sentence structure and parts of speech. I believe this book will achieve its main goal of improving handwriting, and it would also benefit other skills at the same time.

Week 1: pg. review

Week 2: pg. 45,47,48

Week 3: pg. 49,52,53

Week 4: pg. 65-56

### **Physical Education**

Physical education provides kids with the opportunity to discharge their excess energy, improve motor skills and build social skills. Kids enjoy this time as it clears the mind from the classroom activities we do the rest of the day, as well as allowing them to focus better on other activities we do in the classroom later on. This month, we will continue to develop

motor skills, and teamwork through sports and activities involving throwing and catching items..

### **Thematic Activity**

Each month a different foreign teacher is assigned to plan and arrange activities of a chosen theme. This can be different things, from small art projects, short field trips near the school, or a demonstration in the classroom! This month's theme will be the country of 'Italy' which is embedded in the

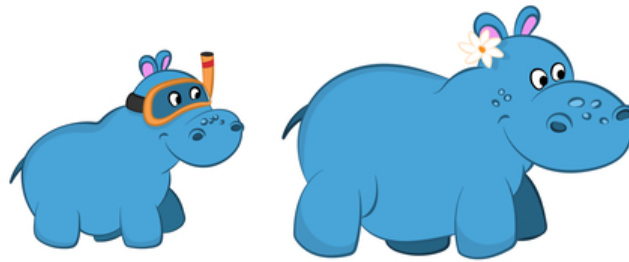
### **Song and Dance**

Singing and dancing are great ways to settle down in the morning with a cheerful activity; not only that, but it also serves as a fantastic way to develop other skills. These other skills include memory, pronunciation, and many more. This month we will sing a couple of songs that are a bit more childish than the ones we have sung so far; these include, "Who Took the Cookies from the Cookie Jar?" and "One Elephant Went out to Play."

### **Library/Storybook**

A few times a week, the students choose a book from a selection hand-picked by me. These books are read in a relaxed and stress-free environment where we all enjoy listening to the teacher or others read out loud to others, this method encourages students to be more curious about these books and to develop a passion for reading.

I hope you have enjoyed reading this newsletter, and feel encouraged by the accomplishments of the previous month and the expectations of this one. I am also looking forward to updating you with your respective children's progress. I hope you found this newsletter informative,  
Teacher Alan.



## **Hippo Class Newsletter April 2022**

親愛的家長們

四月的一開始就是好幾天的連假，希望大家渡過一個快樂的兒童節和輕鬆的假期，並且在假期結束後，準備好迎接四月有趣的活動和新的學習規劃。本月，我們將探索新書，以擴展我們的閱讀技巧和詞彙量。另外將在我們的主教材書本中學到新主題，這主題將和孩子本身息息相關。並且利用書本的內容對語法和語音的更加理解。此外，我們開始為戲劇表演做準備，正如我們上學期學到的那樣，還有規劃了復活節活動，相信孩子們會喜歡並充滿期待。

### **閱讀課程**

在課堂上，我們非常注重閱讀的技巧。我們相信，閱讀是學習的基礎，儘早培養孩子的閱讀習慣，並從閱讀的技能學到更多的知識也是我們的目標。本月，我們將重點關注以自然為主題的書籍，這些書籍不僅具有教育意義，而且對孩子們來說也很有趣。希望這將有助於他們毫不費力地學習。

**Week 1: Wind**

Week 2: Who Needs Water?  
Week 3: At Home in a Shell  
Week 4: What Can Insects Do?

### 主教材課程

此課程進行的方式，將是從討論一個主題開始著手，我們用孩子們喜歡的新詞彙和知識來擴展主題。在與孩子們的對話和討論中，了解孩子們的認知能力，並建構新的概念和學習新的詞彙，最後在統整活動一起閱讀故事。本月，我們將討論我們可以用我們的身體做些什麼的，這個主題很貼近孩子，因為接近他們的生活，並開始意識到自己可以利用身體做出不同的動作。

Week 1-4: Unit Week 5 Workshop

### MPM課程

在數學方面，不論在MPM的練習本或教具盒，這些都是孩子們探索數學作為互動主題的絕佳工具。本月，我們將從D3進入D4的練習本，將更具挑戰性，孩子們需要更注重細節，更加專注。

Week 1: Workbook D3 pgs. 7-12  
Week 2: Workbook D3 pgs. 13-18  
Week 3: Workbook D4 pgs. 1-5  
Week 4: Prepare for drama

### Grammar課程

在文法課程方面，對於從早期階段構建正確的句子和詞彙至關重要。它不僅教會孩子以正確的方式思考和說話，更能正確寫作，本月，我們將學習運用助動詞"can"來練習句子。這包括直述句和疑問句例如"I can \_\_\_\_\_." and "Can she \_\_\_\_\_?" 這將有助於孩子們區分"可以"和"可能"的概念，孩子們可以互換使用。

Week 1: catchup & review  
Week 2: pg 70-71 + WB pg 35  
Week 3: pg 72-73 + WB pg 36  
Week 4: pg 74-75 + WB pg 37

### 發音課程

我們目前正致力於字母的習寫和發音。本月，我們將專注於整齊地習寫和手眼協調。我認為這階段孩子們的手眼協調能力很重要，成熟的手眼協調能力，它將在未來展示成果。本月，我們將繼續學習字母"i"和"o"的長母音，這將有助於孩子們在閱讀和識別單詞時建立聯繫並找到模式。我們將學習"i\_e"，和"igh"聲音以及長"O"聲音，例如"o\_e"，"oa" "ow"。

Week 1: review  
Week 2: pg. 185-189  
Week 3: pg. 192-195  
Week 4: pg. 196-199

### Handwriting練習本

書寫練習，對於班上部份的孩子來說還是需要多加練習，我們正在努力協助孩子。運用重複性的練習，以便在寫這些字母時建立肌肉記憶。本學期，我們將開始使用一本新書，這本書不僅關注寫作技巧，還強化了句子結構和詞性。我相信這本書將實現其改善手寫的主要目標，同時也會使其他技能受益。

Week 1: pg. review  
Week 2: pg. 45,47,48  
Week 3: pg. 49,52,53  
Week 4: pg. 65-56

### 體能課程

體能課提供了孩子們釋放過度能量、提高運動技能和建立社交技能的機會。孩子們喜歡這堂課，它可以消耗我們多餘的熱能並更專注於其他活動及學習。本月，我會針對訓練孩子們手部投擲和抓取物品的技能運動，並配合遊戲競賽，讓孩子們學習團體合作。

### **主題活動**

每個月，都會指派一位老師來規劃和安排選定主題的活動。這可能會有不同的呈現方式，也許是一個美勞活動，或是到學校附近的戶外教學，或在教室裡展示！本月的主題將是『復活節』，我們將學習有關這個慶祝節日的新詞彙和如何慶祝。

### **歌曲律動**

唱歌跳舞是早晨愉快地安頓下來的好方法：不僅如此，它也是發展其他技能的絕妙方式。這些其他技能包括記憶、發音等等。本月份，我們將安排以下二首可愛又適合孩子們的曲子“Who Took the Cookies from the Cookie Jar?” and “One Elephant Went out to Play.”

### **圖書借閱/故事時間**

每個星期，孩子們都會從我精心挑選的書中，選出一本書借閱。這些書本讀起來輕鬆無壓力，相信孩子們會喜歡，另外在這時段，我會分享故事，孩子們可以透過聆聽、沈浸在故事的情境中，並且培養閱讀的熱情。

希望家長們對於本月的課程規劃感到滿意，並對上個月孩子們的表現和接下來的規劃感到期待、鼓舞。我也會樂意不斷的和大家分享孩子們的進步。 感謝您，耐心的詳閱

Teacher Alan.