



Dinosaur Class Newsletter December 2022

Hello Dinosaur Class Parents,

Christmas is without a doubt the highlight of the coming month and followed shortly after by new years celebrations. The Christmas decorations are starting to go up and we are introducing a wide range of songs to get everyone into the festive spirit and build a merry atmosphere.

As I mentioned in previous newsletter, the decorations and themed singing, dressing up and crafting will keep the little hands and the minds busy, plus the exposure in English during all of this is also a great opportunity for them to pick the language and be able to discuss things that they are interested in or have fun doing.

Reading

The reading books are as simple as they can be with pictures and books. The pictures allow for good conversation and link understanding with the vocabulary in the books. Most will highlight key words which are often just nouns in the early stages. So they will learn English for a lot of everyday items they already know in Chinese. That they already know what the pictures are makes them more excited to recognise and share their knowledge too.

The reviews we did last month turned out to be a great success and the kids remembered quite a lot of the vocabulary and sentences from the books. Mostly through recognising the pictures and not the words of course.

Now we move onto books that have more changes to the sentence structures per page and remembering the sentences will be a little harder, also our focus is shifting from remembering what to say when we see a certain picture, to finding the words that start with certain sounds, hopefully this practice with easy words will spark off the beginning of proper reading progress.

We also have a reading competition, which is more like a chance to read on a stage than it is actually competitive. But that is in January, but of course we will begin reviews for the relevant books in December as well.

We have 4 new books to read this month and scheduled as follows:

Week 1: Too Many Cats

Week 2: I am Lost!

Week 3: I Love Colors

Week 4: Prepare for reading contest

Core Material

The Core Material Books are the McGraw Hill Reading Wonders Grade K books, they have a series of stories in them that are themed and have exercises and activities or discussions for the topics discussed. Usually the vocabulary falls in line with other subjects too and makes for good cross reference practice.

We will continue with Unit 2 and the stories that relate to the use of 'we like...' and 'I like...' the last of the stories in this unit are more review use of all the phrases we've seen in the Wonders series so far. Then we move onto the beginning of unit 3.

Phonics

The Sadlier Phonics book Level K has a consistent theme with sound groups using similar vocabulary for the sounds of specific letters. The theme of seeing the sounds of letters in the beginning and ends of words continues for several months now and we also stay with single letter sounds. These are all still very difficult for the kids as letter recognition is still very new, so while I don't focus on perfecting their responses to the activities in this book yet, I am providing the kids exposure to how we make marks and answers according to teachers instruction, just so that they become familiar with class time book work and the process of practicing with teachers supervision. As letter recognition progresses we practice finding sounds in words we know from pictures that kids can say what they are. Like which word has 'c' or sound of 'c' and there will be a frog and an elephant and a cat, to which most kids can now point out that cat starts with that sound.

November:

Week 1: pg 74, 75, 76 ('c', - a, like, to, go, do)

Week 2: pg 77, 78, 79 ('d', - you, be, to, and)

Week 3: pg 80, 82, 83 ('n' - you, be, to, and)

Week 4: pg 84, 85 ('n' - you, be, to, and)

MPM Math (Multiple Practice Module)

The MPM books and boxes allow for a much more interactive learning experience. The kids really enjoy this subject because more often than not, it feels like playing. Which also means a lot more inclination to get distracted with all the goodies in the box, so we practice a fair amount of stricter discipline with what to use and when.

As with some of the other subjects we will be doing some drama practice during this period but will catch up and stay on top of the schedule.

November :

Week 1: (A4: pg 13-18) - (Properties - matching corresponding colors and shapes)

Week 2: (A5: pg 01-06) - (Path Finding - matching properties)

Week 3: (A5: pg 07-12) - (Counting objects - writing numbers)

Week 4: Prepare for Reading Contest

Conversation - Up and Away

We have moved onto some more daily conversation sentence structures, including greetings and classroom questions, like "Good morning, How are you?" and, "Can I use the bathroom?". These are all mostly well practiced already, but the correct grammar is being reinforced as well now. Other topics are instructions given by teachers, like "please sit down", also well practiced already, but just reinforced with new images and interesting flashcard style units.

Conclusion

As always if you have any concerns or suggestions please don't hesitate to let me or Teacher Annie know, we also have daily communication books through teacher Annie and you are welcome to write in my weekly English communication as well. Thank you for taking the time to read the monthly newsletter. I hope that everyone enjoys the festive season and has a Happy New Year.

Regards,
Teacher Justin



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親愛的恐龍班家長們，你們好

聖誕節毫無疑問地是下個月的重頭戲，緊接在後的是新年慶祝活動。我們已經開始進行聖誕佈置，也準備了許多歌曲，讓孩子們體驗節日精神和聖誕氣氛。如我們在之前班報中所提及，聖誕裝飾和歡唱、裝扮及美術製作會讓孩子們的小手和頭腦忙碌起來；在英文環境中體驗聖誕氣氛是個讓孩子們更熟悉語言的好機會，讓他們能夠練習對話並討論他們喜歡的事物。

閱讀

簡單的閱讀書目有圖片讓孩子們理解；書中圖片可以引導孩子吸收對話，並增加詞彙量。多數的重點詞匯在學習初期會以名詞為主，讓孩子們能夠學到日常事物的英文單字。當他們能夠辨認圖片內容時，會使他們更樂意分享自己學過的知識。

上個月的複習成果十分顯著，孩子們已經能記住書中的許多字詞及文句；當然，大多數依舊是以圖片辨認為主，而非單字本身。

在我們的閱讀書目中，在各頁有更多的句法變化，記住書中句子會變得難一；同時我們的目標也從讓孩子們記得看到某張圖片時要說什麼，轉為讓孩子尋找以特定發音為開頭的單字；我們期許這樣的簡單練習足以讓孩子們開始學習正確的閱讀流程。

我們也有舉辦閱讀競賽，比起相互競爭，更像是一個能上台閱讀的機會。明年一月時會舉辦另一場閱讀比賽，我們也會在十二月開始檢閱相關書籍。

如以下計畫表所示，這個月我們有四本閱讀書目：

Week 1: Too Many Cats

Week 2: I am Lost!

Week 3: I Love Colors

Week 4: Prepare for reading contest

核心教材

我們的核心教材為McGraw Hill 的 Reading Wonders Grade K 系列，他們有一系列主題故事能夠讓孩子們練習及討論。通常新單詞會與其他科目相連，對孩子們而言是一個很好的交叉參考、練習。

我們會繼續上第二單元，其中包括能夠練習‘we like...’與‘I like...’相關句型的故事。此單元最後的故事能夠讓孩子們複習先前學過的片語。接著我們會開始學習第三單元。

發音練習

The Sadlier Phonics book Level K 具有一致性的主題，在聲音組中的特定字母的發音會使用相似的詞彙。觀察字母在單字開頭及結尾的發音課程已經持續了幾個月，同時我們也有練習單個字母的發音。這些練習對於還在辨認字母的孩子們而言十分困難，因此我們並不會完善孩子們在書中的練習答案。我們讓孩子了解如何在老師的指引下做記號和作答，讓他們能更熟悉課堂中的作業及在老師的監督下練習。

隨著孩子們對字母的認識增加，能夠辨認出圖片中的發音。如哪個單字中有‘c’或是其發音我們給他們三張圖片分別為青蛙、大象和貓，大部分的孩子已經能指出貓是以字母‘c’作為開頭。

十二月：

Week 1: pg 74, 75, 76 (‘c’, - a, like, to, go, do)

Week 2: pg 77, 78, 79 (‘d’, - you, be, to, and)

Week 3: pg 80, 82, 83 (‘n’ - you, be, to, and)

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MPM 數學

MPM書本和教材能讓孩子們體驗互動式的學習方式。因為學習感覺就像玩遊戲，孩子們十分喜歡這項課程。但這也代表著教材盒中的物品更有可能使孩子們分心，為此我們對於使用教材的時機與使用物品有著較嚴格的規範。

與此同時也有其他課程和話劇排練要進行，我們會按照預定的進度完成教學。

十二月：

Week 1: (A4: pg 13-18) - (Properties - matching corresponding colors and shapes)

Week 2: (A5: pg 01-06) - (Path Finding - matching properties)

Week 3: (A5: pg 07-12) - (Counting objects - writing numbers)

Week 4: Prepare for Reading Contest

溝通對話 - Up and Away

我們開始轉移到更日常化的對話和架構，包括打招呼及在教室中提問，如“Good morning, How are you?” 和 “Can I use the bathroom?”

這些句子我們已經練習過非常多次。其他像是老師的指示，如“please sit down” 同樣也經過許多練習，並以了新的圖示和有趣的抽認卡來加強練習。

結語

如果您有任何建議或問題，請隨時通知我或是Teacher Annie，可以透過聯絡簿告知Teacher Annie，也可以寫在我的每週英語聯絡本中。感謝各位家長花時間閱讀我的的班報，我祝賀各位節日愉快，新年快樂。

Teacher Justin