

Kindergarten News

Kindergarten Team Newsletter
December 2013



Dear Families,

We hope all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving. We are preparing for a busy and exciting month here in kindergarten! We continue to work on making predictions about stories we read. You can do this at home as you read books. Before reading a new book, have your child share predictions about the story. Ask: What do you think will happen in this story? Use what you know about the title, illustrations, and your background knowledge to formulate predictions. After reading the story, compare events in the story with your predictions. If you are reading a fiction story, talk about the characters, setting (where and when it took place), problem, and solution.

We hope that you and your family enjoy a nice holiday season!

The Kindergarten Team

Toys

Just a reminder that children are **not** to bring toys of any type to school. Please help us by reinforcing this with your child and making sure that he/she does not have toys in his/her bookbag. Thank you!

Your child may wear bracelets and necklaces but if these items disturb our learning, he/she will be asked to put them in his/her backpack.

Winter Clothing

Please make sure that your child's winter clothing - hats, gloves, coats, etc. are **labeled** with your child's name. (Just write on the tag.) Sometimes several children have the exact same article of clothing and even they don't know which belongs to them! Please have your child continue to practice his/her zipping skills. Children should be able to put on their own coats.

Early Dismissal Day

December 20th will be an early dismissal day. Children will be dismissed at 1:30. They will arrive home 2 hours earlier than usual.

What Can We Do at Home?

Language Arts Ideas

Here are some activities to work on speaking and listening skills:

1. After reading a book, have your child retell the story. Have him/her incorporate story elements (characters, setting, problem, solution) for fiction books.
2. Share a short story about something that happened that day. Then ask your child some questions about your story. Example: I went to the doctor today. The nurse took me into the office. I had a check-up. Ask: Where did I go? Who took me into the office? Why was I there?

Let's blend and segment words:

1. Say the individual sounds in a word and see if your child can blend them together to make the word. Example: /b/ /a/ /t/ or /f/ /i/ /sh/
2. Say a one-syllable word and have your child break the word into its individual sounds. Example: Say the word win. Your child says /w/ /i/ /n/.

Math Ideas

We have been working on sorting objects. Have your child take a handful of objects and see how many different ways he/she can sort them. Does your child sort by size, color, shape, texture, or another attribute?

During this quarter, we will practice writing the numerals 1 to 20. You could have your child practice writing these numbers at home. Thank you!