



The K2 News

Sunday, September 11, 2011

Quarter 1 Week 6

Introducing.....Learning Stations!

Welcome to Week 6 in kindergarten!

This week, we will learn all about learning stations which are also known as ‘centers.’ I prefer the title “learning stations” as these activities are about learning, following directions independently (eventually), and using “waiting for my reading group to be called” time wisely!

At this point in kinder development, our learning stations will come to our tables for a one day period, rotating to a new table each day. The tasks are open-ended and support our literacy and fine motor development.

Learning stations tasks will assist all kinders in the development of time management, as these fun activities may only be completed after the assigned work has been completed (1-2 simple worksheets that would require less than 5 minutes total.) Kinders will also learn to report their “learning” by filling out a simple checklist. I am going to try very hard to see that these checklists get home every day!



White Uniform shirts for Tuesday’s photo shoot!



Keep sending in the water bottles! We are all doing a great job of remaining well hydrated!



Our learning this week - - - -

Religion:

We will continue to work on the 10 Commandments, which our religion text has simplified for our kinders. We will hear the Bible story about Moses and the 10 Commandments; we will also listen to the Bible story about the Prodigal Son. Please continue to work on the Sign of the Cross with your kinder!

There is a fun 10 Commandments Boogie song on YouTube by GoFish. We are not showing it in the classroom because it speaks of the “covet you neighbor’s wife” – while in a very clean and Christian way, the K team felt that parents should preview this at home and decide if they felt it was appropriate for their family.

Literacy:

Week 3 begins on Wednesday. I will send home the Reading letter and minibook on that day!

Here is the overview:

Theme & Vocabulary	Families Change ; target words = relative, change; size words
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Literature Selections	Trade book = Peter's Chair Big Book of Exploration = Family Fun Oral Read Aloud (week of Sept 19 th) Jennifer Bing, Why Won't You Sing?
Phonemic Awareness	isolate (pick out the first sound), categorize (find the 1 word of 3 that does NOT start the same), blend (c + a+ p = cap) sounds A (as in at) and M (as in monkey) Blend a+m to make AM – a new word!
High Frequency Word HFW	Read we, the, can, I, am fluently
Comprehension	Strategy (a way to think that makes you smart fast!) Recognize Story Structure (beginning, middle, end) Skill (supports comprehension) Make Predictions – if we do this, our mind gets ready to help us with words that might be too difficult to read.
Writing	Week 2 writing = make a picture list of activities you like to do with you family. Week 3 writing = brainstorm and create a picture chart, comparing and contrasting 3 items that you used as a baby and what you use now (stroller vs. car.)

Math and Theme have switched around a bit in our schedule...so I will write about Social Studies/Theme first!

We continue to work on the concept of citizenship and country. We are listening to our National Anthem and other patriotic songs while we work. We know 4 symbols of the United States and can tell you facts about our American flag.

This week, we will discuss what citizens do in a country – and work on identifying what makes a good citizen. We will also practice democracy – by voting on several different issues. Finally, we will look at maps, find Arizona, and create a simple map to take home.

Math

We continue to work on 2 and 3 dimensional shapes. We will explore the faces of 3D shapes this week. Please keep on counting, forwards and backwards!

May God Bless you all,
Joan B.