



4K News

March 7, 2019

Literacy:

Students have begun learning what rhyming means. As a whole group, we matched pairs of rhyming picture words and have listened to "Exercise, Rhyme and Freeze" by Jack Hartmann. This song allows students to practice listening for the same ending sound of various words to make a rhyming pair. We will explore the concept of rhyming more as the month goes on.

Learning Soon!

Next week, we will begin learning how to form letters in our Handwriting Without Tears School Book using "big curves and little curves" such as in: C, U, O, etc.

We will be reading a few fairy tales such as *Goldilocks and The Three Bears* and *The Three Little Pigs*. As we read and reread these stories, students will work on sequencing and retelling. We will also focus on using the illustrations of our stories to answer who, what and where comprehension questions.

Lastly, I will be introducing what a QR code is and how they are used on the Ipad (i-nigma QR app). Students will learn how to scan a story's QR barcode, which takes them to a read aloud video on their Ipad. I will have a variety of Pete the Cat (by James Dean) QR code stories for students to choose from in their small group center.



Math:

Students have had various opportunities to identify and extend present visual, kinesthetic and auditory patterns. I recently introduced the song "Alligator Chomp" by Jack Hartmann on Youtube.com. This song allows students to listen and practice copying the same (kinesthetic) hand-clapping pattern. The next step will be to create patterns, which I encourage you to try at home with your child!

This month, we will also practice sorting a variety of objects into groups based on two different attributes. We have practiced sorting by color and by habitat (land/water animals, farm/zoo animals). We will be working on sorting and comparing math manipulatives by size and other attributes next.

I recently introduced a new Ipad app called "candy count". This application allows students to sort candies by color, count using one to one correspondence, and then apply their knowledge of *most* and *least*.

Social/Emotional:

Students continue to learn what *The Zones of Regulation* means and calming strategies we can use when in the "red" or "yellow" zones.

 <h3>Pretzel</h3> <p>Standing up, cross your ankles. Now cross your right wrist over left, turn your hands so your thumbs are facing the floor, put palms together and interlace fingers. Bend your elbows out and gently turn your hands down and toward your body until they rest on the center of your chest. Put your tongue on the roof of your mouth. Relax and breathe.</p>	 <h3>Balloon</h3> <p>Place your hands on top of your head and interlace your fingers. Breathe in through your nose as you raise your arms, inflating an imaginary balloon. Release the air in the balloon by pursing your lips, exhaling slowly, lowering your arms and making a "pbbppbb" sound.</p>
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Recently, we have learned two more breathing techniques to use when frustrated or upset.

Activities to Try at Home

- Practice singing our new(er) good morning song!
- Have your student show you the hand gestures that go along with this song as well:
- Buenos Días! Buenos Días! (Good Morning! Good Morning!)
- Cómo Estás? Cómo Estás? (How are you? How are you?)
- Muy Bien, Gracias. Muy Bien, Gracias. (Very well, thank you. Very well, thank you.)
- Y, Usted. Y, Usted. (And you? And you?)
- Practice identifying and creating patterns with various household items. (For example: go on a pattern hunt around the house with your student and see how many different patterns you can find). Talk about what makes it a pattern and reiterate that patterns are something repeated.

Upcoming Events:

- March 11th: PTA Meeting
- March 15th: Talent Show and Dance from 5pm-7pm
- March 18th: Culver's Night
- March 15th: Meadowbrook Spirit Day-Irish Spirit Day
- March 20th: Meadowbrook Spirit Day- Hawaiian Day
- March 25th-29th: Spring Break
- April 2nd: Meadowbrook Spirit Day-Autism Awareness-Wear Blue!
- April 26th: Meadowbrook Rummage Sale from 5pm-8pm