

# Kindergarten News

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Our first Kindergarten Team Newsletter is hot off the press...make that being beamed to you from cyber space. We are so excited to bring you this first edition and hope you find it helpful and informative. It is our goal to publish our newsletters on or about the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. In it you will find the monthly TARGETS (curriculum goals / skills) that we are focusing on (though not exclusively) with the children. The areas of curriculum will be presented separately and yet, keep in mind that the beauty of kindergarten is that often the skills are integrated into many different subject areas. We hope you understand that the skills build upon one another and that review and practice of skills already taught is a daily occurrence. Enjoy and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's teacher.

## Spelling

This year we will start a new spelling program called Sitton Spelling. The target for Sitton Spelling is to teach and reinforce spelling words that are the most frequent used words in writing. The High-Frequency Core Word list consists of 1200 words. In kindergarten, we will focus on the first fourteen words. From now until January, we will expose the children to their spelling words through various activities. Starting in January, we will incorporate designed units that will be used in our Daily 5 literacy block. A detailed letter will go home to explain the Sitton Spelling program and define the fourteen High-Frequency Core words that we will expect the children to spell correctly by the end of the year.

## Mathematics

I can use objects to demonstrate 1 to 1 correspondence to 10.

I can read numbers to 10 out of order.

I can write numbers to 10.

I can use objects to demonstrate "same number", "more than" and "less than" to 10.

I can use flash cards to compare and order numbers to 10.

I can identify the simple 2 dimensional shapes: square, circle, oval, rectangle, triangle, diamond/rhombus.

I can create, describe and extend geometric patterns using pattern blocks to make a simple ABAB pattern.

I can identify a penny by name.

I can count to 30 by 1's.

## Science

I can make observations of the natural world using the appropriate senses.

I can identify that living things have basic needs.

I can identify and compare living and nonliving things.

I can ask questions based on observations.

I can plan and do simple investigations.

I can share ideas about science through purposeful conversation.

I can share my findings of observations.

I can think of different ways to gather information (ask an expert, use a book, make observations, conduct simple investigations, and watch a video).

## Literacy

"Making Meaning" is a reading comprehension program that teaches specific strategies children need to become effective readers. Students use these strategies to make sense of their own reading, at their own level. We began the year with Unit 1, *The Reading Life*, which will continue through Thanksgiving Break. Target skills are:

- I can make text-to-self connections.
- I can answer questions to understand a story.

Socially, your children are building a reading community. They are learning the group skill of listening to one another through delightful stories such as *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* and *The Kissing Hand*.

## Penmanship Targets

I can write my first and last name using uppercase and lowercase letters, with a space between each name.

I can follow the #1 rule for Penmanship: No letters or numbers start on the bottom line.

I can practice forming these letters: Ii Uu Ww Rr Nn Mm

**Social Studies Target:** "Myself and Others."

"Who am I?"

I can tell you how children are alike and different.

I can get along with others.

I can be responsible.

"How do I get along with others?"

I can get along with others and cooperate.

I can be fair.

I can work together to solve classroom problems.

**Writing Targets**

I can write my name.

I can draw pictures to tell my story or idea.

I know that letters are used to make words.

I can tell you about my pictures and writing.

I can tell you that each sound has a letter.

I can use beginning sounds to write.