



Mr. Mott's Kindergarten News
March 28, 2016

Where We've Been

Well we set our traps, but Sammy wasn't fooled. He made a HUGE mess of our classroom! We will be posting a slideshow using Google Slides once everyone has reported about their traps!

We continued to read about fairy tales and seasonal stories as well.

In Foundations, we learned when to use c (followed by a, o, or u) and when to use k (followed by e or i)! We also learned about /k/ at the end of a word or syllable - c can't end a word, ck is used after a short vowel, and k is used after a long vowel sound.

In Writing Workshop, we started to look at how-to books and discuss how different they are from narrative texts.

On Wednesday, we enjoyed a great presentation from Beardsley Zoo! They taught us how plant eaters and meat eaters have different types of teeth, how animals adapt to survive, why they have certain adaptations, a visual of how big snakes can get, how they get some animals at the zoo and more! Check out the Students' Blog for pictures from the event!

Where We Are Going

This week we will continue our Fairy Tale theme. We will read fairy tales such as "Little Red Riding Hood," "Cinderella," and some variations on the Big Bad Wolf. We will use these stories to learn about story elements (who, what, where when, why/how) and new vocabulary. We will also continue to read some Dr. Seuss stories!

In Foundations, we will continue to practice tapping to read and tapping to spell. We will review when to use ck. We also intertwine using long vowels (specifically Super E and Talkers and Walkers) when reading or spelling words.

In Math, we will be starting our next unit. We will be focusing on finding the partners of a number, writing equations to match partner pictures, and solving teen equations.

In Writing Workshop, we will officially launch our next unit of study - writing how-to stories. This week we will focus on the features of such a story (tells steps in order, has pictures, and reviewing work to make sure it makes sense).

In Other News

Kindergarten Super Reader Program ends Friday this week!

Permission slips will be going home this week for our field trip to Groton City Police Station! Please sign and return them ASAP!

Important Dates

F 4/1 - End of Super Reader Program!

4/13 - Field Trip to Groton City Police Station

4/13 - Get Ready for K Night!
(For students coming to K Next Year)

4/18-4/22 - NO SCHOOL
Spring Break

TBD Field Trips - Bluff Point, Eastern Point Fire Station, Eastern Point Beach trips

Sight Words

big of

Homework

Read 20 mins. nightly
T - Make Words Activity
W - Make Words Activity
TH - Math HW
(please see attached homework for more detailed directions).



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In Other News

Fundations Homework: *If you have misplaced the letter tiles, you can print another set out from our classroom website.* As different students are at different levels, please see the attached Foundations Homework page for directions and the words they will be working with.

Make Words Activity:

- _____ 1. Write a word from the list.
- _____ 2. Have your child build it with the letter tiles.
- _____ 3. Have your child tap the sounds, then blend to form the word.
- _____ 4. Repeat with 2-3 other words.

Kindergarten Super Reader Program: FRIDAY IS THE LAST DAY!!!

- Please record books you read to your child or books they read on the log form. Your child may color a super reader for each book read. We will check the logs on Friday. For every 10 books, students will earn a ribbon. If a child reaches 50, they can wear a Super Reader's cape for a day and appear on PV News!

Frequently Asked Questions from Parent Teacher Conferences

- What can I do at home to help my child?
 - Sight words - [check this handout out!](#) (or see it attached to this week's newsletter!)
 - Word Reading Skills - use the Foundations letter tiles to build and tap out words.
 - Read, read, read!
 - Practice counting, addition, subtraction, teen numbers when eating snack or playing games.
 - There's a blank sight word and / or letter template you can download from [here](#).
- What's a Super E or a Talker and Walker?
 - Super E - any VCe word where the vowel says its long name and the e is silent. We say the Super E jumps over the consonant and bumps the vowel making it say its name. [Click here for more information!](#)
 - Talker and Walker - if you see two vowels next to each other, the first one usually says its name (long sound) and the second letter is silent. We say the first one does the talking (says its long name) and the second one does the walking (is silent). [Click here for more information!](#)
- Where can I go for books for my child to read?
 - Go to www.raz-kids.com. Our account name is cmott1. The students know what to do after that. Students have access to lots of books at their instructional and independent level. They can read stories, listen to stories, or record themselves reading stories.



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FREE

- [Hubbard's Cupboard](#) - I print books from this site all the time. Be advised, there are some religious texts on this site. Obviously, I don't use those in the classroom. FREE
- [Wilbooks](#) - Offers a variety of stories (fiction and nonfiction) at various levels at reasonable prices. \$
- [Starfall.com](#) - has some books appropriate for K, others are read to your child.
- Visit your local Library's website and check out their digital books. There may be some just right books available. FREE
- What books are right for my child?
 - Of course it depends on your child's reading abilities. In general, Scholastic's Steps 1 and 2 works for K students. If they list an F&P, PreA-D is an appropriate range to choose from. I shared with each of you where your child is at with their F&P level. You can also always check the guided reading books in their folder to check their current level.
 - [Scholastic Leveling Guide:](#)



Ready to Read

Preschool–Kindergarten
For children who know the alphabet and are eager to begin reading.

- Big type and Easy words
- Rhyme and rhythm
- Picture clues



Reading with Help

Preschool–Grade 1
For children who recognize familiar words and sound out new words with help.

- Basic vocabulary
- Short sentences
- Simple stories



Reading on Your Own

Grades 1–3
For children who are ready to read on their own.

- Engaging characters
- Easy-to-follow plots
- Popular topics



Reading Paragraphs

Grades 2–3
For newly Independent readers who read simple sentences with confidence

- Challenging vocabulary
- Short paragraphs
- Exciting stories



Ready for Chapters

Grades 2–4
For children who want to take the plunge into chapter books but still like colorful pictures.

- Chapters
- Longer paragraphs
- Full-color art

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