

**WHAT ARE WE DOING IN SCHOOL?**

Theme: Ancient Egypt– Mummies in the Morning

What Reading & Writing Skills are being practiced? Many Fridays, I assess the sight words that have been taught. Please practice regularly. For those children who need to review letters and sounds, please continue to play the IHWH games. There are many games to support these skills on http://jenniferboudreau.weebly.com

For writing, I would like to see all of the children at the IS (initial sounds) level. Your child should be able to draw a picture and write a sentence that relates to the main idea of the chapter that has been read. He/she should make one line for each word written, and then write at least the beginning sound of each word. This should be completed independently without teacher assistance. If there is an X or / through the IS at the top of the paper, this means he/she has had help to complete this task. We continue to work on listening for the ending sounds of words and have begun to include vowels too! We have been practicing the short vowel sounds such as /a/ in apple and are making words with word patterns such as \_ee, \_ing, \_ow, \_oat, and more! Example, for “\_ee,” we write and read “bee, see, tee” on whiteboards. We use the word patterns to learn how to decode (read) words. We continue to play the Elkonin games.

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What Math Skills are being practiced? Learning numbers 0-20 continues to be the focus. We completed the numeral formation book 1-10 and continue to practice 11-20. Number and recognition games (Guess My Number, The Numerals Game, IHWH Numbers, and Roll and Record) involve showing children numbers and having them count that many objects. A buddy then checks the work.

**CALENDAR REMINDERS**

*School Calendar Can be found at* [*http://aes.seekonk.sharpschool.com/calendar*](http://aes.seekonk.sharpschool.com/calendar)

*Birthdays*

*November 8- Samantha*

We wrapped up the book on Ancient Egypt Mummies in the Morning, and next week we will be diving into a study of Pirates. Lots of time will be spent talking about pirate ships and the life of pirates. This is a highly engaging topic for kids. I expect to see wonderful scenarios in the dramatic play.

**Spotlight Activity: Graphics Practice**

Up to this point in the year, we have used our Graphics Practice exercises to practice physical self-regulation, private speech and handwriting strokes. We are now beginning to tie the private speech and strokes into the formation of letters. This is the start of penmanship practice. Children are encouraged to write their letters properly using their private speech to help them remember what to write. For example, when writing a capital “M” children would say, “up, down, up, down.” I sent home the private speech paper last week.

**WEB CONNECTIONS**

[**http://jenniferboudreau.weebly.com**](http://jenniferboudreau.weebly.com)

*Try these games…*

*Math- Name The Shape & Number Bingo (11-20)*

*ELA- Short A Machine or Starfall*

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Ms. Boudreau’s Home/School Connection

A newsletter connecting home and school environments

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*WISH LIST*

* *Band aids*
* *Cleaning Wipes*
* *Any color card stock paper*

Thank you for the donations from last week!

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* *Dot Art Stampers*
* *Any color card stock paper*

Thank you for the donations from last week!

**A Few Sight Word Tips**

\*Keep all of your sight words in a special box or bag. Decorate a shoebox, a tissue box, or Ziploc bag to ‘house’ all the cards.

\* It also works well to write one set of words on spiral bound index cards. This way all of the words are always together.

\****Daily practice*** helps with mastery of words. Try different ways…

**Different Ways to Learn Sight Words**

1. **Immerse your Learning Area**: Absolutely immerse your child’s learning area with flashcards, hang them from the ceiling like a ladder, have them on the windows, on your fridge, or place them as a password to enter and exit different rooms of the house. Children need to see the words everywhere!
2. **Coin Toss/Beanbag Toss**: Place selected flashcards on the floor face up. Take turns tossing a coin or beanbag onto each word and then say that word. Make this more difficult by asking the ‘tosser’ to throw onto a specific word, or use other clues such as, a word beginning with b, or a word that has the ‘oo’ sound in it, or a word with 4 letters.
3. **Who Am I? Game**: Take turns giving ‘Who am I’ clues for a chosen word. For example, “ I am on yellow paper, I have 5 letters and end in ‘y.’ Try to guess the word.
4. **Hangman**: Play ‘hangman’ using the flashcards as reference.
5. **Find-a-Word in Reading Books**: Use the flashcards and have your child find the word in a book that you are reading together. Write down each word and ‘tally’ how many times you find each word.
6. **Varied Materials**: Have your child write sight words in sand, shaving cream, pudding, or bubbles. Use child friendly art supplies- florescent index cards, side walk chalk, puffy paint, glitter pens, glow in the dark pens, watercolors, crayons, etc. Mix it up and keep it fun!

**EXTENSIONS AT HOME:**

* Reread the Mummies in the Morning chapter summaries to someone. Talk about what happened in the story. Ask your child, “What was your favorite part?” What did you find interesting?”
* Practice writing letters- uppercase and lowercase.

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See page 1 for Calendar Reminders

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* **Sight Words- Please be sure to practice OFTEN!**
* **Week 3- a, is, we**
* **Week 4- the, of, are**
* **Week 5 – to, it, in**
* **Week 6 – on, go, there, he**
* **Week 7- why, had, who**
* **Week 8- has, where, she, an**
* **Week 9- and, like, have, me**
* **Week10: see, that, will, you**

**Coming up next week,** Week 11- **with, made, very, their**

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**Web Connection**: Be sure to check out our class website for lots of games to play. There are many links to sites you can use to practice skills from school. Also, there are many photographs from our exciting times in October (and before)- Halloween, Officer Perry’s visit, and photos of the different Magic Tree House (MTH) stories/ adventures we have read and dramatized. This site is a great way to share what your child is doing with loved ones that are not local. Feel free to share the web page with family to keep them “in the loop.” I hope you area enjoying the site, and if you have any suggestions on how to make it better, please let me know.

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