

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN



A Day in the Life of A WGES Kindergartener 2011-2012

Morning Time:

- Fine Motor Activity
- Calendar (date, 100's chart, problem solving, place value, analogies, rebus picture puzzles, logic problems, Word Wall Word activities)
- Writing Workshop (daily mini lesson focusing on specific techniques of the writing process, independent writing, conferences, sharing, etc.)
- Reading Workshop (daily mini lessons, independent reading, conferences, partner reading, and guided reading.)
- Recess and Lunch

Early Afternoon:

- Literacy Activities (poetry, Word Wall activities, handwriting, alphabet and word family activities)
- Words Their Way (word study; alphabet and word sorts)
- Literacy Centers
- Library once weekly
- Encore classes at 11:45 (rotating between Art, Music, PE, Science and computer)

Afternoon:

- Snack
- Read Aloud
- Math Lessons (sorting, patterning, graphing, work with numbers, measurement, time, money, addition, subtraction, geometry, fractions, etc.)
- Independent and Group Math Activities
- Thematic Lessons (Science, Social Studies, Health topics)
- Free Centers (home living, art, science, blocks, games, listening, etc.)
- Shared Reading Time
- Dismissal

LUNCH:

- * If you send a lunch with your child, please make sure that everything is included (napkin, spoon, etc.)
- * We do not feel comfortable allowing kinder students to use a microwave so please avoid sending in food that needs to be heated.
- * We request that kindergarten students purchase no more than one treat a day. Please discuss your limits with your child, and if needed, you may write a note for the cafeteria to limit your child's purchases.
- * With the exception of specific testing dates, parents are always welcome to join their children for lunch. There are special tables outside of the cafeteria designated for visiting parents and their children. Students may ask one friend to join them for lunch with parents.

SNACK:

- * Please send a healthy snack to school each day with your child.
- * Snacks must be dry and spoon-free" i.e. any snack that your child does not need a spoon to eat it.
- * If you choose to send a drink with your child, please send water only.
- * Please do not send in nut products for snack if your child is in a nut-free classroom as they are not allowed in those classrooms.

BIRTHDAYS:

We celebrate birthdays in our classrooms at 2:20 p.m.. Please plan the day with your teacher in advance. All treats sent for the class must be store bought. Please carefully check the ingredients to ensure that you do not bring or send products containing nuts if your child is in a nut-free classroom. We have a number of students with other allergies, so please ask your child's teacher before purchasing birthday treats.

DISCIPLINE:

Your child has a chart in his/her folder. Each day it will be marked according to his/her behavior.

Smile: Your child had a good day!

Note with Smile: Your child had a difficult time following directions. There will be an explanation on the chart for that day. Some children will have a hard time the first time they have a note with a smile. If this happens, please help him or her understand that everybody has bad days and tomorrow will be a new day. If, however, your child is continuously coming home with notes, then please schedule a conference with your child's teacher.

Note Only: Repetitive negative behavior and warnings will result in a note only. Please contact your child's teacher with questions or concerns.

Classroom Management Plan

The purpose and goal of our classroom discipline plan is to encourage students to behave in positive ways. Students will have multiple chances to make good choices and show appropriate behavior.

Classroom Rules

- Follow directions the first time they are given
- Keep hands, feet, and other objects to yourself
- Use an inside voice and kind words
- Treat others the way you want to be treated
- Take care of our things and work together to keep our room clean



- Kindergarten News

- Please make sure you are reading to your child every night. Readers will come home daily. Please let your child read them to you and help them stretch out the words.
- Skills to Work on at Home
 - Practice cutting magazine pictures
 - Practice identifying upper and lowercase letters
 - Review counting numbers 1 - 100
 - Practice identifying number 1-30
 - Practice writing and coloring to help fine motor skills
 - Practice letter sounds
 - Read, Read, Read to your child as often as possible
 - Practice word wall words



Helping Your Child Learn to Read

In order to produce independent readers who monitor and correct themselves as they read, use the following prompts as you are reading together:

- Give your child wait time of 5 to 10 seconds when they get stuck. See what he/she attempts to do himself.
- Ask, "What would make sense there?"
- Ask, "What do you think the word could be?"
- Say, "Use the picture to help you figure out what it could be."
- Say, "Skip it and go on to the end of the page. Now do you think you know what that word could be?"
- Say, "Put in a word that would make sense there."
- Say, "You read that word before on another page. See if you can find it."
- Say, "Look at the beginning letter and think about what sound that makes."
- Say, "You know another word that has the same sounds. (write the known word on a piece of paper and have the child read it) Now, what is this word?"
- If your child misreads a word, and the misread word does not change the meaning of the story, don't correct at all!
- Always wait until your child has finished the sentence at least before pointing out a misread word, and then say, "Did that make sense when you read _____?"
- Use two or three prompts, and if your child still hasn't gotten the correct work, give it to him.
- Focus on what your child is doing well and attempting to do. Remain loving and supportive. When your child is having difficulty and trying to use the independent strategies he/she has been shown, make sure you point it out!



Increasing Reading Comprehension

Main Idea: Have conversations with your child about books. Take turns telling the “gist” or what the story was about. Discuss who was in the story and what the problem was.

Details: Pause and ask questions about stories during the story and at the end of the story.

Cause and Effect: Ask what caused a certain event and why.

Inference: Ask questions for which the answers are implied. Ex: Why did Cinderella run out the door at midnight?

Vocabulary: If your child is unsure about the meaning of certain word, encourage him or her to use the sentence and pictures to figure out what the word could possibly mean.

Sequence: Ask questions related to what happened before or after certain events or ask what happened at the beginning or first, middle or next and at the end of or last part of the story.

Connection: Model “thinking about the story (ie; how it made you feel and what it made you think about). Ask your child what the story made him/her think about or feel.

Top Ten Ways to Help Your Child at Home

1. Set aside a special reading time. Reading to your child regularly will increase his/her motivation and readiness to read.
2. Help your child select books to read.
3. Solve problems with your child, instead of solving them for him or her.
4. Encourage your child to write (notes, grocery lists, cards, etc.).
5. Write notes to your child and leave them in special places (in his/her lunch box, under his/her pillow, etc.).
6. Give your child responsibilities at home (making his/her bed, feeding a pet, taking out recycling, etc.)
7. Limit television, video games and computer time. Instead, play games for the whole family.
8. Talk with your child about things that interest him or her.
9. Talk with your child about his/her school day. Most kindergarten students find it difficult to express themselves, so here are a few questions to help start conversation:
 - What book did your teacher read today?
 - What did you write about today?
 - Who did you sit near during lunch?

• Fun Learning Links



- word world
- Fun with letters and sounds. This sight has games and word building.
- <http://pbskids.org/wordworld/>
- Johnny Can Spell Phonogram Practice
- a great way to practice the phonograms your child is learning in class.
- <http://phonogrampage.com/>
- Game Goo
- Fun and entertaining games for phonemic awareness!
- <http://www.earobics.com/gamegoo/gooey.html>



"Carroll ISD is not responsible for content on external sites or servers."

• Fun Learning Links

- Rainforest Math
- Math games for all skill levels K - 6.
- <http://rainforestmaths.com>
- Reading Rockets
- A great source of information to help your child learn to read!
- <http://http://www.readingrockets.org/>
- Starfall
- This is a great website! Contains alphabet fun and games, phonics games, and interactive books!
- <http://www.starfall.com>