



Kindergarten News

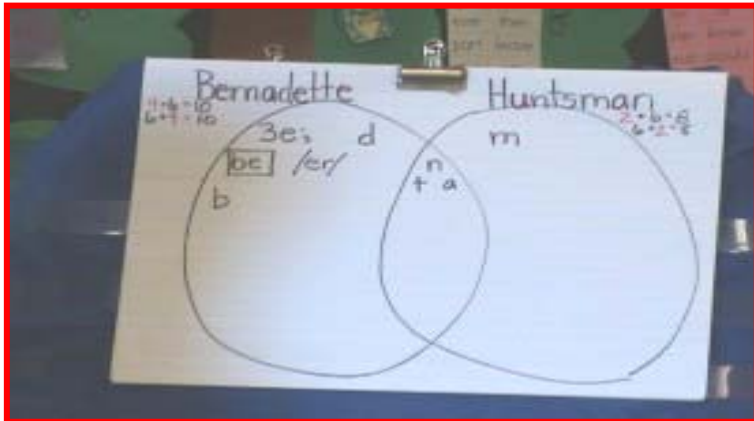


Long Beach Unified School District

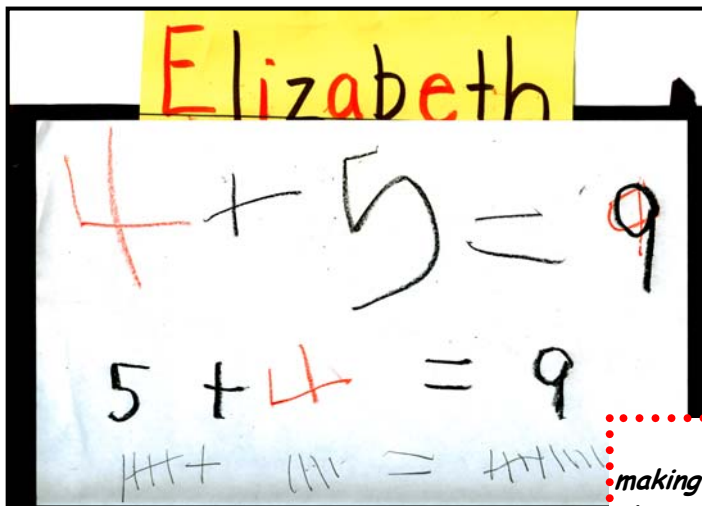
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Making Every Minute Count...



MacArthur kindergarten teacher Jeanne Spicer facilitates the development of phonemic awareness with her students by implementing teaching strategies that focus on student names. The Name Game and Special Name are two strategies she uses in her classroom beginning in September, to help the students develop phonemic awareness. The students quickly connect letters and sounds through being exposed to their classmates names. They begin to develop strong letter/sound connections as they clap and count syllables, blend sounds, compare and contrast names using a Venn diagram, and do sound substitution.



Students extend their Special Name strategy by making a fact using the consonants and vowels in their classmate's names. They enjoy it so much, they can tell you what math fact goes with each name.

Pictures from Lafayette, Gompers and MacArthur Show How Kindergarten Classes Across the District Implement the Kindergarten Components of MAP²D ...



Kindergarten class begins their lesson by singing "Just The Facts" chant ...



All students are actively involved during the Freight Train component...



Active participation to enhance concept development of Commutative Property



Checking for understanding with authentic on-going assessments - "Independent Journal Writing"...



Extension activity to enhance academic vocabulary and commutative property concept development

Learning Walks Provide High Incentives

At Garfield Elementary

The teachers at Garfield are excited about their high accountability with the Learning Walks that are taking place at their school site. They are all learning to define "differentiation" for their students. They refer to their professional development to help as they refine Workshop activities, so that the students are involved in dynamic learning experiences. Their focus is literacy, because, as one teacher explains, "we generally are proficient with math since we have been doing MAP²D for 2 years now, and with our new addition of Kindergarten and First Grade MAP²D, we have a consistent program taking place at Garfield". *GO GARFIELD*



Signal Hill Celebrates 100 Days of School

The Signal Hill Kindergarten teachers are preparing for their 100th day celebration. The day will be celebrated with a 100th day carnival. Students in all kindergarten classes will get the opportunity to complete up to 10 different 100th day activities such as:

- Eat a zero
- 100 cherrios necklace
- 100 headbands
- 100 stamps
- 100 exercises
- 100 beats on an instrument
- 100 face painting
- Follow the number line to 100
- 100 day snack
- 100 jumps

Parents help run the activities and all the kindergarten teachers participate. It is a day when math comes alive!



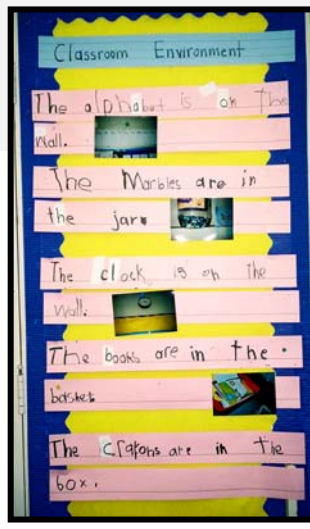
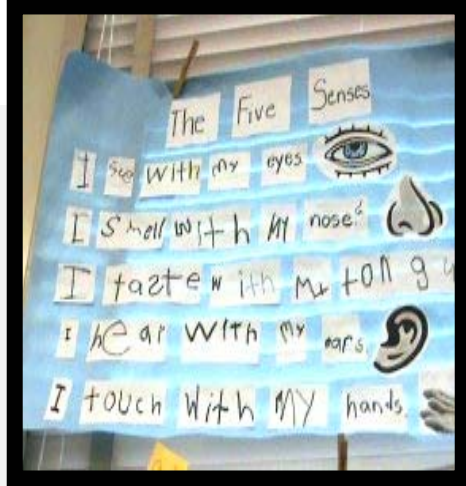
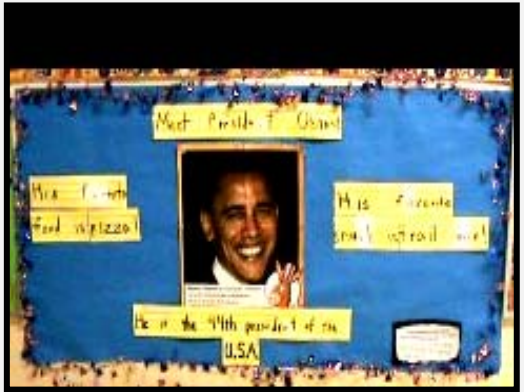
"Guest Reader" A Success At Lafayette

Kindergarten teacher Andrea Edwards, from Lafayette Elementary, was concerned about the lack of parent involvement in her classroom. She wanted to encourage parents to be more involved, so that's when Andrea started her "Guest Reader Program" The program is set up for parents to come in each Friday to read to the class. Andrea discussed the program at Back to School Night, explaining that the classroom library was available to parents in case they didn't have books at home.





At the beginning of each month a calendar is sent home so parents can sign up to read. When the the calendars are returned, it is enlarged and displayed near the camping chair where there is a special sign that says "Guest Reader". The camping chair is used only for the "Guest Reader". Andrea takes pictures of each guest reader and proudly places the pictures on her hall bulletin board titled "Parent Stop".

The "Guest Reader" response has been wonderful. Andrea is thrilled with the success of the program and she is no longer concerned with lack of parent involvement in her classroom.

Interactive Writing
 pictures show how teachers use the strategy across all curriculum areas. The finished products provide powerful reading material for the students to read and reread continuously throughout the year. The rereading highly supports student success in learning to read.



What's New

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 The week of January 26 - 29, Gant Elementary had a school wide "turn off the TV" week. It coincides with the Author's Festival. They invited parents to come to class to read with their child on Thursday of that week.
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 King Elementary held a "Pajama Night" on January 14th. The students came in their pajamas to hear teachers read stories. The parents listened as teachers modeled comprehension strategies. They took pictures with story characters. This night was in conjunction with the Book Fair.
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 A Madison Kindergarten classroom has a "100 Word Club". Each time a child learns a set of 10 words, they receive a Blue Slip award. When they learn 100 words, they get a free book from the teacher. Every time they accumulate 20 Blue Slips, they receive a book from the principal. They can reach a goal of 200 words!
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 Cleveland is using Kagan cooperative learning structure to practice and review math concepts. Each month two new structures are highlighted.

