The Title Link 2003

A newsletter of math and reading resources

September 2014



Title 1 Teacher **Elementary Reading**

Meet the Title 1 Team!



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Grades K-6 Reading

How Do I Select an Appropriate Book for My Child?



5 Finger Test

- 1. Choose a book that interests you.
- Look for a page somewhere in the middle of the book.
- Read the page aloud or in a whisper if possible. This way you can hear any places where the text is hard for you.
- Each time you read a word you don't know, hold up 1 finger.
- If you are holding up all 5 fingers before you finish the page, the text is probably too difficult for you right now. You can always try it again later, though!
- If you are holding up no fingers by the time you have read the page, the book is probably too easy for you.

Book Selection

Why?

When you help children choose books that are "just right" and avoid books that are too hard, you...

- help them determine which books are good for practice, enjoyment and learning to read.
- help them determine which books are not desirable for independent reading.
- help them become proficient when choosing books independently.

How?

- 1. Have your child read approximately 35 words from a chosen book (If your child is very young, have him or her read more than one book from a series).
- Note the number of mistakes your child makes as he or she reads to you, including words left out, words added, words read in place of words in text, and words he or she cannot read.
- 3. Count the mistakes. If your child makes four or less mistakes, he or she is reading a book that is "just right" for independent reading. If your child makes four or five mistakes, he or she is reading a book suitable for reading with the help of an adult. If your child makes more than 5 mistakes, he or she is reading a book that is too hard and should be avoided for independent reading or instruction.



Literature Suggestions
Frog and Toad are Friends
Arnold Lobel (2nd)
Hansel and Gretel
James Marshall (2nd)
How to Make a Mudpie
Rozanne Williams (K-1)
Lunch With Cat and Dog
Rozanne Williams (1- early 2)

Grades K-6 Math

Top Outdoor Math Games

No matter what age a child is, mathematical understanding should be developed through stories, songs, games and imaginative play. Taking math outdoors provides a whole new way to look at math.

Taking math outdoors:

- Draws out the mathematical learning in other activities, including observing numbers and patterns in the environment and in daily routines.
- Provides real-life problems with real objects/surroundings. Models mathematical vocabulary.
- Gives children sufficient time, space and encouragement to use 'new' words and mathematical ideas.

Here are the **Top 5** most engaging and easy Outdoor Math Games (for K-5 grade)

* these games can be adapted for all grades K-5 as suggested*

1) New Hopscotch:

A great one for numeral recognition and fact practice-kids love it. I find it works really well for skip counting too...we label the squares 2, 4, 6, 8 etc. (you could use any multiple). A nice, fun and easy way to reinforce how to skip count. Try labeling the squares skip counting by different numbers. Then, when your child is ready erase the numbers and skip count without the written numbers. You can find skip counting songs on crazymathmom.com: http://www.math-games-and-activities-at-home.com/4thgrademath-multiplicationfacts.html



2) What's the Time Mr Wolf?

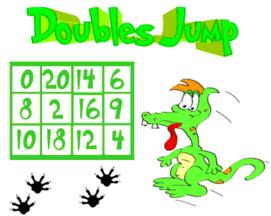
One child (Mr Wolf) stands at the end of the courtyard/grass area (wherever you're playing it!) with their back to the other child or parent (whatever the case may be). The other children or parent calls out: 'What's the time Mr Wolf?', and Mr Wolf answers with a time (the older they are more complex the times become- ie: 5: 15 OR 4:45) then the children or parents take that number of steps (I always get them to count aloud to practice sequencing). This continues until someone reaches Mr Wolf and tags him, OR until Mr Wolf calls out 'Dinnertime!', when he turns around and tries to tag everyone before they run back to the starting point. To make it more difficult, Mr. Wolf can say, "one more than....o'clock' or 'one hour before ... o'clock'' Another way to play it is to get the kids to skip count their steps out loud until they get to the time the Wolf called out(ie. 7 o'clock would be...2, 4, 6, 7).

3.) All Around Sports:

Basketball, soccer, whatever your sport, you can have fun with math. Have your child try predicting how many baskets or goals he/she can make out of 10. Then ask your child to convert the number of shots that he/she made into a percentage. If he/she took 10 shots, he/she would add a zero to the number of shots that he/she made, as well as a percent sign to indicate the percentage of shots made. Try skip counting while making shots/goals. Basketball is a 2-pt no brainer!

4.) Doubles Addition/Multiplication Facts Grid:

The aim of this outdoor game is to encourage automatic recall of basic facts. What to do: 1. Draw the game grid on concrete using chalk. Each square should be about 30cm by 30cm. (the example shows addition doubles or multiplication by 2's but, you can make up your own based on what your child needs to work on). 2. Two players (can be played with one person, too) stand with their feet in the large feet facing the addition game board. 3. A 'Caller' asks a question from one of the cards 9 (you can use flashcards or verbally shout problems). 4. When a player has worked out the answer they must jump from their spot onto the correct answer. Do not move until you know the answer. Players then rotate positions but the winner stays to compete with next player.



5.) Math Racers

Place a pile of small balls, pebbles, or pine cones at the end of your garden or outside in park. Line up children about 30 feet away and give each of them a

bag with a handle. Shout out math problems; the difficulty will depend on their age and ability. They then race to collect a number of balls in their bag that represent the solution to the math problem, emptying them when they return. You should check that the children bring back the correct number of balls each time and, after the game, run through the right answers. Try division problems for older kids: 20 divided by 4=?

Grades 7-12 Reading

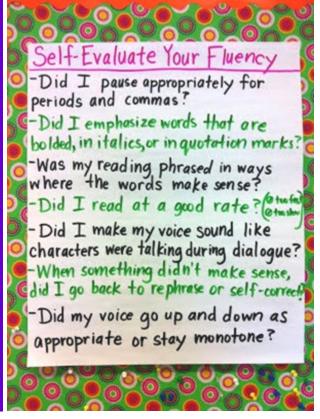
Who should use MVRC?



MindPlay Virtual Reading Coach is beneficial to students within a wide range of proficiency levels. MVRC is highly appropriate for Struggling Readers, English Language Learners, Teen and Adult Learners and Accelerated Learners. (See www.mindplay.com)

MindPlay Virtual Reading Coach for Students

- •Individualized learning plan for each MVRC student
- •One-on-one instruction provided by virtual instructors
- Systematic and explicit instruction and specific corrective feedback
- Helps student self-monitor progress
- •Self-paced, mastery-based learning and achievement
- •Intensive instruction for struggling readers
- •Rapid advancement in vocabulary and comprehension for accelerated students
- •Practice in English Language structure and usage for second language learners
- •Levels of instruction appropriate for teen and adult learners



Source: http://middleschoolteachertoliteracycoach.blogspot.com/2013/08/5-strategies-to-improve-reading-fluency.html

Do You Want to Strengthen Vocabulary and Comprehension?

Create a Comic Strip! Reading and writing are interdependent of one another. The better the reader you are, the better writer you will become. And, the better writer you are, the better reader you will become. Tap into your student's creative side, and let him/her develop and illustrate a story in a comic strip format. The *Make Beliefs Comix* website (http://www.makebeliefscomix.com/Comix/) is a great resource to do this! When you are finished, you can check out the hundreds of other comics available to read.



Grades 7-12 Math



What is Ascend Math?

Ascend Math® is a research based adaptive instructional resource in which students have proven to achieve two or more grade level gains in a six month period. This online individualized intervention resource identifies skill gaps, prescribes targeted instruction, and motivates students to achieve their maximum performance and potential. Ascend Math is written to Common Core and rigorous state standards. Instruction is delivered in a logical math sequence and students can progress at their own pace and track their own progress and success. Ascend Math® is currently used by hundreds of schools and districts serving tens of thousands of students throughout the U.S. and Canada. Visit at www.ascendmath.com.

Source: http://www.eschoolnews.com/2014/05/23/ schools-receive-2014-gold-medal-awards-ascendeducation/

Welcome Math Families! Hoosier Academy Theme: "Climbing Mt Everest"



We are Sherpas! What are they? Sherpas are highly regarded as elite mountaineers and experts in their local terrain. They were immeasurably valuable to early explorers of the Himalayan region, serving as guides at the extreme altitudes of the peaks and passes in the region, particularly for expeditions to climb Mount Everest. Today, the

term is often used by foreigners to refer to almost any guide or porter hired for mountaineering expeditions in the Himalayas, regardless of their ethnicity. Because of this usage, the term has become a slang byword for a guide or mentor in other situations. Sherpas are renowned in the international climbing and mountaineering community for their hardiness, expertise, and experience at very high altitudes.

As Title 1 teachers and parents, we will be the Sherpas who guide students through their journey and conquer the challenges that lie ahead. Let's gear up and start climbing! We look forward to working with you and getting to know you!

> Greg Blatz MS Title 1 Math

Kris Phillips HS Title 1 Math

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sherpa people

Order of Operations Practice: Color the section according to the answer and colors listed below.

