Little Hands & Sponges

Literacy & Math Centers offer our youngest learners hands-on experiences that leads to academic & language development!

Grapevine Colleyville Learning Institute 2019-2010
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Data

A 2019 study from three universities found there was a **sizeable difference of vocabulary exposure** in children from different socioeconomic levels.

The earlier we as teachers help fill that vocabulary gap, the more reading growth our students will demonstrate.

**Literacy & Math Centers** offer our youngest learners **hands-on experiences that leads to academic & language development** using small group instruction.

-Evie Blad from Education Week 09.13.2019
What is small group instruction?

- Usually follows a whole group instruction or mini lesson
- Provides students with reduced student-teacher ratio (max of 4 students per group)
- Allows teacher to work closely with each student on a specific learning objective
- Reinforces skills learned in whole group or mini lessons
- Helps to check for understanding
- Allows differentiation
- Provides focused attention & individual feedback
What are the benefits of small group instruction?

Small group instruction can provide a comfortable environment and boost the confidence of students who might not otherwise participate in a lesson or activity.

-Fountas and Pinnell
Is small group instruction effective?

Small group instruction is effective because teaching is focused precisely on what students need to learn next to move forward. Ongoing observation of your students combined with systematic assessment enables you to draw together groups of students who fit a particular instructional profile.

-Fountas and Pinnell
Hattie’s Research

Small group instruction and cooperative learning have a significant impact on student achievement (Hattie, 2009) and are widely used in elementary classrooms.
When should small group instruction usually occur?

1. Small group instruction usually follows whole group instruction to reinforce or reteach specific skills and concepts.
2. To assist literacy and math experiences in which the teacher supports and guides students.
3. To intervene with struggling students or students acquiring English as a second language (ESL).
4. Small group instruction can occur in groups of students with similar academic needs or in cooperative groups of students with diverse abilities to help and learn from each other.
How To Prepare Learning Centers

**DATA**
Analyze data & consider student needs when creating learning centers.

**MANIPULATIVES**
Locate interactive experiences, use the Parent Center to create them, model for Students & place in it's designated classroom spot.

**FEEDBACK**
Think about anecdotal data & consider student voice before tweaking & repeating.

**INSTRUCTION**
Pull your small groups to differentiate & cater to students individual needs.
Little Hands & Sponges in Literacy

Students are incorporating in sentences the vocabulary we learn from each thematic unit. New vocabulary is incorporated across centers.

Students reinforce vocabulary by playing bingo, building and writing words and orally using them in sentences.
Little Hands & Sponges in Math
References & Resources


Blad, E. (2019). Asked About Race, Biden Talked Record Players. Here’s a Quick Primer on the ‘Word Gap’
Thank you!

Questions, ideas or suggestions?
Please provide Feedback on Seed!

Contact us!

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