



March 21st

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Math

As the school year has progressed we have been counting and combining larger numbers. At the same time we have been learning the numerals that represent those quantities. This note is to help you find things to do at home that will support your child's learning at school. If you have further questions just ask.

Related Activities to Try at Home (page 1 of 2)

Dear Family,

The activities suggested below are related to the mathematics we are currently studying in school. Doing them with your child can enrich your child's mathematical learning.

Measuring Shoes In school, we have been using cubes to measure the length of our shoes. Your child may enjoy investigating the length of shoes at home. Just as we do in school, your child can trace shoe outlines on paper, and then use paper clips (or blocks of the same size, or ziti noodles) to measure the length of the outline. Ask your child to put the shoes in order from the smallest to the biggest.



Counting We continue to focus on strategies for counting accurately. At home, find many ways to count together with your child; for example, count aloud, count sets of objects, ask your child to count out specific amounts, and pose problems that he or she can solve by counting. The list of suggested books below includes several counting books that you can read together.

One More or Fewer Find opportunities to ask your child about one more and one fewer, an idea we have been working on in class. For example, after your child counts a set of objects such as pennies, ask, "What if I gave you one more penny? Then how many would you have?" or "What if I took one penny back? Then how many would you have?" Then, add (or remove) a penny. That way, your child can recount the set from one to find out or to double-check the answer.

(continued)

Related Activities to Try at Home (page 2 of 2)

Also, counting books that count up from one present "one more" situations; books that count backward present "one fewer" situations. (See list of books.)

Playing *Double Compare* We have been playing a card game called *Double Compare* that is similar to the familiar card game, *War*. This game uses the cards 0-6. Each player gets half the deck and puts the cards in a pile, facedown. Both players turn over their top two cards, and the person with the larger total says, "Me." Ask your child to explain how he or she knows which total is greater. The game is over when all of the cards have been turned over.

Math and Literature You can find these books in your local library and read them together. These books focus on measuring, counting forward, and counting back.

Books About Measuring

Russo, Marasabina. *The Line Up Book*.

Lionni, Leo. *Inch by Inch*.

Counting Forward

Falwell, Cathryn. *Feast for 10*.

Krebs, Laurie. *We All Went on Safari: A Counting Journey Through Tanzania*.

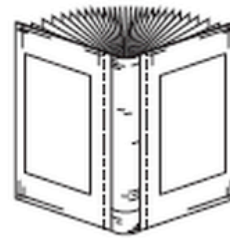
Mora, Pat. *Uno, Dos, Tres, One, Two, Three*.

Wormell, Christopher. *Teeth, Tails and Tentacles: An Animal Counting Book*.

Counting Back

Dale, Penny. *Ten in Bed*.

Murphy, Stuart J. *Monster Musical Chairs*.



Spirit Day - Wednesday, March 28th



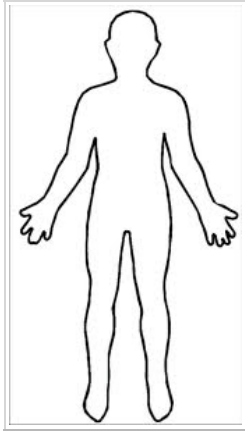
Wednesday, March 28th is Spirit Day. Dress in Ann Arbor Open school colors, orange and black and don't forget to wear pandas. Go Pandas!!!!

Paperback Book Orders Due

The current book order is due Friday, March 23rd and could be in before we go on break thanks to Laurie and her quick turnover time. Thanks Laurie!!!

Human Body

At this time we have a parent coming to share about our bones and muscles and one sharing about our teeth and oral health. If you would like to share just let me know.



As part of our science curriculum, our class is preparing to study the human body. By the time they reach kindergarten, children are eager to learn more about the workings of their own bodies. They want to know what happens when they get sick, how they get well again, where their food goes, what a heart really looks like, and why they feel out of breath when they run around the playground. While young children cannot understand all the intricacies of the human body, they are able to make use of the focused inquiry that a scientific approach provides to begin to learn about how their bodies function. Children feel empowered by knowing even a bit about the unseen, inner workings of their bodies. As part of our learning, the class will construct a class model of the human body, including body parts related to the circulatory, respiratory, digestive, skeletal, and muscular systems, as well as a smaller personal model that they will bring home at the end of our study.

Please let me know if you work in a medical profession or otherwise have special interest or knowledge of the body and could visit our class to talk with the children. Our trip last week to the Health Exploration Center was informative and fun!!!

Finally, if you have a baby at home, we'd love to have you bring the baby for a visit so the children can observe, first hand, the early stages of their own development.

Gallon Milk Jugs



We are just over half way there. Please wash and save your gallon milk jugs. We have begun gathering maple sap from several

trees on the schoolyard. I would like to construct a model of how much sap it takes to make a gallon of maple syrup. It takes 40 gallons of sap to make one gallon of syrup. That means we will need 40 milk jugs. We need everyone's help. Thanks!

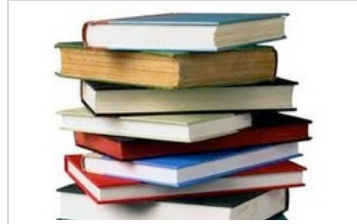
Class Needs



Liquid Soap Pumps Update - As you empty a liquid soap pump at home please wash it and send it to school. We need the kind for thick soap. This is a project for the future and **we will need one pump per child** in a few months. At this point we have 5 pumps. Be sure and keep what you have and send them to school.

Thanks!

Book Organizer



There are some new books that need to be unwrapped and labeled with stickers. It needs to be done at school and can be done during class since it is in another room. (Ikhlas this is different from what you are doing.) Let me know if you can help us out.

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