



A Day in the Life of a Kindergartener at Randolph Elementary

Mrs. Mitchell and Mrs. Francis
2017-2018

Group Time:

We begin our day with group time. Group learning usually takes place on the carpet. During this time, we get to know each other, sing songs, share ideas, learn new concepts, read stories, and discuss our center choices for the day. A central focus of our large group area is the calendar wall and literacy pocket charts. Throughout the day we also gather in our large group area for literacy and math lessons utilizing these resources. Many of the kindergarten Everyday Math concepts are introduced and reviewed during our daily calendar time. Such activities include, but are not limited to, the number of the day, attendance, rhyming, weather, date, place value, counting, patterning, graphing, and counting money.

Writer's Workshop:



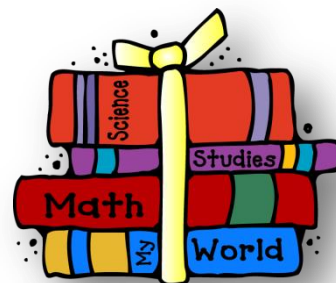
Writer's Workshop will be the time when we do our primary writing. This is an important part of our day, as children become readers by being writers. This format for writing includes a mini-lesson, a period for independent writing, and an opportunity to share what has been written. An everyday observer would be quick to notice that this learning time evolves and changes throughout the kindergarten year. Writing in kindergarten includes a wide variety of abilities. Some children will begin by writing only their name, while others will be able to stretch out words and write simple sentences. It is important that all attempts to communicate on paper are considered to be "writing" and celebrated. As the year progresses, you will see that your child's writing will also progress.

Reading Workshop: Read Aloud/Shared Reading

We will have a daily story time when we will read to our class. During group reading we also teach many concepts about books. Many types or genres of literature will be shared along with concepts of print (left-to-right, how to 'read' pictures, title, author, illustrator, etc.) and of course phonics (letters/sounds). We will also use components of an Interactive Read Aloud program that will introduce and model comprehension or thinking strategies during reading. Story elements (setting, characters, and main idea) and sequencing (retelling a story in order) along with making connections and asking questions will be taught.

Guided Reading:

We will meet with small groups of students during our Reading Workshop while other students are participating in a variety of centers. Eventually your child will bring home books to practice that were used during his/her small group instruction. They will be



in a Ziploc bag labeled with your child's name. This will need to be read at home and returned to school **the next day**. After establishing classroom routines and expectations for the first several weeks of school, we will incorporate many different learning centers into our morning. The students will work at their centers with a partner. These centers will change throughout the year, providing the students with the most appropriate opportunities for practice and review.

Exploration Time:

These are busy, important, and very enjoyable parts of the day for the children. During these times, children will visit a variety of learning center activities and have lots of opportunities for imaginative play, as well as fine and gross motor development. The variety of activities will provide the children not only with opportunities for hands-on learning of the content material, but also with opportunities for developing their interdependent/social skills. The teacher's role during these times is to observe and interact with students, meet with small groups and/or assess progress.



Math Time:

Our math program is called Everyday Math. Your child will explore, learn and practice mathematics in a range of settings including whole class, small groups, partners and individually. They will learn to work cooperatively and independently as they solve problems based on real-life situations.

Science:

Science is taught throughout the school year for approximately 30 minutes, one to two times a week. Our Science units include: Senses, Motion, My Earth, and Living and Non-living.

Social Studies:

Social Studies will be taught throughout the course of the year. We will focus on Social Studies topics in whole group lessons, center time, and small group work. Randolph Elementary is a Leader in Me School. Throughout the year we will be learning about the habits of successful leaders.

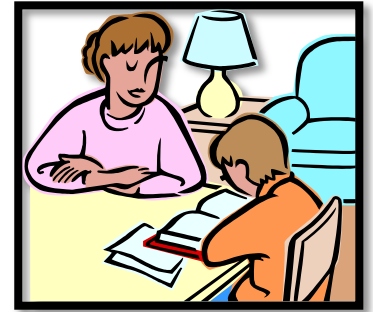
Weekly Reader Magazine:

We use the magazine "My Weekly Reader" with students. This is a weekly magazine that focuses on nonfiction reading, science, social skills and current events. Once we share them in class, they will be added to your child's song and poetry binder, which is sent home on a

weekly basis. It is a fun magazine for you to review with your child. Your child will love to revisit the interesting information in their Weekly Readers so we encourage you to keep them in your child's binder and add that binder to your child's personal reading collection at the end of the school year.

Homework:

Throughout the year there will be occasions that homework (primarily math and handwriting) is sent home to support what we are learning in class. We recognize that most kindergarten homework is actually family homework. As such, families will always have a few days to complete and return any required work.



We hope this will help accommodate busy schedules. The Everyday Math Program includes various homework activities so look for an Everyday Math Homework paper to come home on occasion in your child's daily folder. You will always receive additional notes/reminders regarding any upcoming homework or Family Projects. The Family Projects will be sent home on a monthly basis in a large yellow envelope. Please return the completed projects by the date indicated on the assignment. Please return the large yellow envelope as well, so that it can be used for the next project. Your child will also have a Monthly Homework Calendar in the clear back pocket of his/her daily folder. This Monthly Homework Calendar will provide you with several activities to complete with your child at home. The activities can be completed in any order, simply initial or color in each box as completed. On the back of each Monthly Homework Calendar, there is a Family Reading Log. Your child will color in one of the symbols for every five minutes of reading done at home. This includes your child reading to you, or you reading to your child. 😊

The best way to reach us is either via email or text. Our contact information is below:

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