



WHAT'S WHISTELING IN THE CARDINAL CLASS
FOR SEPTEMBER 2021



Themes For the Month of September



Welcome to the Cardinal Class

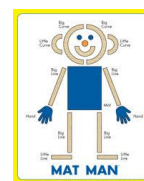
Getting to Know You

Science Time: Can fruit float
Can people eat leaves?

Journals Letters Ff and Ee

Numbers 1 & 2

Handwriting Time: "Mat Man"



Getting to Know you Games



Let's Make a Friendship Spider Web

The children will make a big circle. The teacher will have a big ball of yarn, hold the end of the yarn and roll it across the room to a child. The child who gets the ball of yarn will say: "Hi, my name is ____". All the children will say: "Hi ____". That child will roll the ball of yarn to another child until everyone has had a turn. When everyone has had a turn the children will see the Friendship Web they have made.

Jack be Nimble

The children will each get a turn jumping over the candlestick as the class recites: ____be nimble, ____be quick, ____jumped over the candlestick. They will insert the name of the child who is jumping!



September Science Experiments

During science time the children turn into "Scientist"! These are the steps we follow for each experiment:

1. The teacher states the Hypothesis ~ the Problem. She holds up the Question Board that has the question written at the top and the word "Yes" on the left side and the word "No" on the right side. Week 3 of September the Hypothesis is: "Can fruit float?" and Week 4 of September the Hypothesis is "Can people eat leaves?"
2. Our scientists make predictions. If they think "Yes" they will clip their personalized clothespin on the left-hand side and if they think "No" they will clip their personalized clothespin on the right-hand side. The class will tally the votes and determine which side got the "Most" votes and which side got the "Least" votes. So many skills are reinforced during this step: Taking a risk and making a prediction, understanding what a question is and then responding to the question, Fine Motor skill of clipping a clothespin, and Math skill of counting, most & least.
3. Now the fun part - doing the experiment! The children will put different fruit in a large bowl and see what will float and sink. Apples, bananas, lemons, oranges, pears, and zucchinis will **float**, while avocados, potatoes, and mangoes will **sink**.
4. When everyone has done the experiment, the children gather around the teacher and she will state the Hypothesis again. Now the children will have their findings and answer the question with the facts.



September Reading Readiness Activities...

Our goal for our Cardinal classes is that by the end of the school year the children will recognize and print the 26 letters of the alphabet both in upper and lowercase, identify initial consonant sound, rhyme, and begin to recognize simple sight words. We do this by:

1. Using a Program entitled *Alphabet Stories*. Every letter of the alphabet is introduced with a puppet and an 8 part adventure story. As the children listen to the puppet's adventure, they will see the letter and hear the letter sound carefully interwoven throughout the story. The puppets are not introduced in alphabetical order; they are introduced from easier initial consonant sounds to more difficult consonant sounds. In September the children will meet Ff for Friendly Frog and Ee for Enor the Elephant.
2. Using a Program entitled *Alphabet Rhymes*: This is a fun activity because the children are "reading" a simple rhyme. With each letter the children will put together an Alphabet Rhyme book. These simple rhymes reinforce the letter of the week, sight words: "is, for, on, my" and a picture clue for the last word.
3. Using a Program entitled *Sounds Abound*: This will begin in January and the program teaches rhyming through games.
4. Taking a Picture Dictionary: The children will make pictures of things that start with the letter of the week. The teacher will save these pictures and at the end of the year the children will bring home their picture dictionary.
5. The teachers continually review the letter and letter sounds through games, poems, handwriting and songs.

September Harcourt Math

Harcourt Math is a wonderful program that teaches math skills through the use of children's literature and manipulatives. In September the children will be introduced to the numbers 1 & 2. Our goal with each number is that the children can recognize the number (especially when shown out of order), identify the number and count that many objects, understand 1-to-1 correspondence, understand the concept of more/less/same, and printing the numbers using the "Handwriting Without Tears" method.

The children will hear two stories:
One Bear, One Dog by Paul Strickland and *Little Quack* by Lauren Thompson.

Afterwards the children will do the following activities:

1. Count up to 2 objects using a variety of objects.
2. Match the number to the amount of objects they have counted.
3. Compare piles of objects and determine which pile has "More", which pile has "Less" and which piles are the "Same".
4. Each child will be given 2 paper plates that have been numbered 1-2, tweezers, and pom-poms. The children will look at the number on each plate and pick up that many pom-poms with their tweezers and put them on the plate.
5. The children will make a counting book. In September they will make numbers 1 to 2 in their counting book. The book will be sent home once they get to 20!



Handwriting Without Tears

Handwriting Without Tears is a program that makes handwriting an automatic and natural skill for children of all ability levels. In September the children will first be asked to draw a picture of themselves and then they will do a handwriting activity entitled "Mat Man/Mat Lady". After experiencing the activity the children will be asked to draw themselves again & the difference is amazing!

Mat Man



