



Kindergarten Connection

"Our First Week"



Community School of Davidson
www.csdnc.org
Mrs. Humphries Class
August 26, 2011

What a great week! We enjoyed our staggered entry days getting to know one another and becoming familiar with our daily routine, plus I was able to spend some quality time assessing children's understanding of mathematical concepts and literacy skills, so that I have a good idea of where to begin instruction with each child.

On Friday, we were able to work through several work stations creating a book of things we like, getting to know each other while making a friendship bracelet and working on a big book version of *Mary Wore Her Red Dress*. We will begin sending this class-made big book home with children next week for nightly reading. Please be sure to send it back the very next day, so that the next child can have a turn!

Carpool

Thanks for doing such a great job this week with being near the front of the carpool line. After a long day of school, the children wait anxiously for their names to be called. They cannot wait to see you! If you ever need to walk in to pick up your child, please try to do so by 2:20. We leave the classroom at 2:20 to walk down to our hallway carpool waiting spot. If you arrive after 2:20, you can find us sitting in the hallway connector between the 4th and 5th grade hall. We sit very close to Mr. Merithew's classroom.

Snacks/Lunches

Both snack and lunch should include a source of protein. For snack, two items are sufficient, such as fruit and cheese or yogurt and pretzels. We drink water for snack. It is helpful if you mark the snack with a big "S" or pack it in a separate bag. It is fine to pack milk or juice for lunch. Fruit snacks (such as gummies) are considered a dessert, not a fruit.

Homework for Kindergarten

Beginning after Labor Day we will begin sending home a book for you to read aloud to your child. In addition to that, from time to time we will also ask that you practice other things we are doing at school. Here are some things to practice from our first week together....

*Cleaning up your own table space after eating. Children are responsible for "hand sweeping" any crumbs on the table and putting them in the trashcan. We also have them sweep the floor around their space with a hand broom and dustpan. Finally, if any sticky things are on the table we have them wipe it down with a wet wipe. You can practice these things at home and this will help your child become independent with these tasks at school.

*Practice Yoga poses. We play a very fun game that helps students improve impulse control and visual discrimination. We play music and when the music stops, I hold up a card with a yoga pose on it. The children make that pose and hold it until the music begins again. This week we learned the following poses: cricket, tree and surfer. See below for pictures of the poses. Have your child show you the poses. Can they hold the pose for 15 to 30 seconds? The cricket is tricky because the elbows are between the knees.



Morning/Afternoon Routine:

One of the goals for the first weeks of kindergarten is to learn to be independent with packing and unpacking book bags. We have a morning routine established for this and have a poster with picture clues to help children remember. Here is our routine for the morning

1. turn in blue folder to the container behind the door
2. put lunch box in cubby
3. hang up book bag
4. put water bottle on the table
5. wash hands
6. begin morning activities

Here is our routine for the afternoon:

1. put blue folder and other items from "small cubby" in book bag.
2. put lunch box in cubby
3. pack up water bottle
4. On Fridays, pack up towel or blanket for washing

One more thing to practice...

Folding towels or blankets
We are working with children as they become independent with folding these items. You might decide to have your little one help you fold towels from the laundry this weekend!

Wishlist:

Lanyards
We are trying to locate about 10 lanyards. If you have any lanyards taking up space in a drawer at home, we would be happy to use these for our classroom for nametags.