March/April 2017 Issue

Clintonville Reads & Counts



Literacy Specialists: Kim Carew: <u>carew.kim@north-haven.k12.ct.us</u> Lauren Payne: <u>payne.lauren@north-haven.k12.ct.us</u> Math Coach:

Lynn Pomichter: pomichter.lynn@north-haven.k12.ct.us

Ways Parents Can Support Math at Home



The ability to identify and describe shapes, sizes, positions, directions and movement is important in many work situations, such as construction and design as well as in creating and understanding art. Becoming familiar with shapes and spatial relationships in their environment will help children grasp the principles of geometry in later grades.

• Identify shapes and sizes. When playing with your child, identify things by their shape and size: "Pass me a sugar cube." "Take the largest cereal box out of the cupboard."

• Build structures using blocks or old boxes. Discuss the need to build a strong base. Ask your child which shapes stack easily and why.

• Hide a toy and use directional language to help your child find it. Give clues using words or phrases such as up, down, over, under, between, through and on top of.

• Play "I spy", looking for different shapes. "I spy something that is round." "I spy something that is rectangular." "I spy something that looks like a cone."

• Ask your child to draw a picture of your street, neighborhood or town. Talk about where your home is in relation to a neighbor's home or the corner store. Use directional words and phrases like beside and to the right of.

• Go on a "shape hunt". Have your child look for as many circles, squares, triangles and rectangles as he or she can find in the home or outside. Do the same with three-dimensional objects like cubes, cones, spheres and cylinders.

"Education is the most powerful weapon for changing the world." -Nelson Mandela



Great Reading Websites for Both Parents & Students

http://www.Trelease-onreading.com

Jim Trelease, author of The Read Aloud Handbook, has a wonderful website that provides research on the importance of reading aloud to kids of all ages. This valuable website is for parents to use as a starting point in order to get their children reading.

http://www.guysread.com

This website is run by children's author Jon Scieszka and it is geared toward getting boys to read. There is a collection of book titles and famous male authors worth checking out by both parents and students.

http://www.kidsreads.com

This book review site is excellent for keeping up with what is new in books. There is a monthly newsletter, author interviews and activities.

http://www.readkiddoread.com

This is author James Patterson's site and is updated frequently. There are recommendations for books for both parents and students.



Let Your Child Choose (Their Books)!

Here are five fantastic ways to find that perfect book with your child:



- 1. Let the interests of your child guide their book choices.
- 2. Picture books are great for everyone.
- 3. Suggest some of your favorite books to your child.
- 4. Browse and discover.
- 5. Take the "5 Finger Test".

Make Reading a Habit at Home!

Research shows that children who read books for just 15 minutes a day perform better in school. Here are some great ways to get your child reading:

- 1. Set aside a reading time.
- 2. Pick a reading place.
- 3. Read together.
- 4. Involve and engage listeners.
- 5. Fill your home with reading materials.
- 6. Get caught reading yourself.
- 7. Older siblings read to younger siblings.
- 8. Start seasonal traditions.
- 9. Keep favorite books around.



ABCya.com Math Games

A fun and educational website that children enjoy using during the school day. Here is a sample of some of the games the website offers that can be used at home. These games cover a variety of Common Core Standards K-5.

Kindergarten Games



First Grade Games



"Education is the most powerful weapon for changing the world." -Nelson Mandela MORE ABCYa.com Math

Games

Second Grade Games







<u> Third Grade Games</u>







Fourth Grade Games







Fifth Grade Games









Math and Language Arts LINGO!

Do you think that your kids are talking a different language when it comes to math and language arts terms? Read below for some common vocabulary terms that your children use in school!

MATH LINGO:

<u>CONE</u>: A solid (3-dimensional) object with a circular flat base joined to a curved side that ends in an apex point.

<u>CUBE</u>: A box-shaped solid object that has six identical square faces.

CYLINDER: A solid object with:

- two identical flat ends that are circular or elliptical
- and one curved side.

<u>SPHERE:</u> A 3-dimensional object shaped like a ball.

LANGUAGE ARTS LINGO:

Text Evidence: Students are asked to find evidence from the texts they are reading to illustrate their ideas and support their arguments, or statements they are trying to prove. The more evidence the better!

Inference: Students have to draw a conclusion based on what they know and what they author is telling them in the text. It is "reading between the lines"!

<u>Retell</u>: After students have read a story, they are asked to retell what they read. They need to tell all of the parts in order, with details. When students get older, they begin to summarize instead.

Sight Words: Sights words are words students must memorize and know by "sight". Many of these words do not follow phonics patterns.

Expression: Students practice reading with expression. This is part of being a fluent reader. Your tone changes as you read.

"Education is the most powerful weapon for changing the world." -Nelson Mandela

All about Shapes!

CONE





CYLINDER



SPHERE



Page 3 of 3