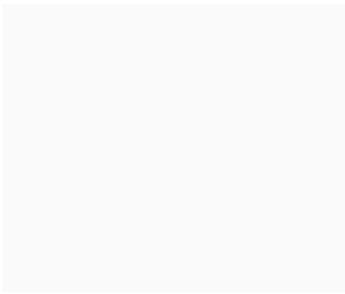


DEPARTMENT NEWS

K-2 Resources

Did you know that you can get everything that I have created directly on our department's website? See the image below on how to locate this section. If you need the "super secret" password, just send me a quick e-mail (sajovec@conceptschoools.org)

<http://elementary.conceptschoools.org/>



Professional Development Offerings

This year, Concept Schools has developed a new way for teachers to request support and professional development. The following sessions are now listed on the "Professional Management" tab on Concept SIS.

- Class Observation & Feedback (also for model lessons or co-teaching)
- Curriculum in Details (meeting about curriculum, lesson planning, etc.)
- Training on STAR Early Literacy
- Basics to Reading Instruction
- Guided Math
- High Leverage Strategies and Tools for Classroom Management
- Reading and Math Centers 101
- The Emergent Writer
- Understanding the Necessary Components of the Balanced Literacy Block
- RTI for the Classroom Teacher (Reading and Math)

You are welcome to submit a request for any of these and these requests will be forwarded to Mr. Uslu for consideration. Please feel free to contact me anytime about any requests or follow up through an email to let me know about your needs!

Contact Information:

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FREE?!?!?

Best Online Phonological/Phonemic Awareness Sites

Phonological awareness is critical for learning to read any alphabetic writing system. And research shows that difficulty with phoneme awareness and other phonological skills is a predictor of poor reading and spelling development. It is imperative we set up a solid system for making sure our students have all of these precursory reading skills. Below are several sites where you can find free activities to use to help develop PA skills in your students.

FCRR (Florida Center for Reading Research)

http://www.fcrr.org/resources/resources_sca.html

This is by far one of the best and most comprehensive sites for PA activities as well as activities. What is the best part of all of these is that you can easily print one out and put it in a literacy center for additional practice.

Phonological Awareness.Org

<http://www.phonologicalawareness.org/>

A husband and wife duo of a Speech and Language teacher and SPED teacher put together a very nice website that offers not only activities to do with your class but also has a nice chart on "age of acquisitions" so you can pace out your PA lessons appropriately.

Sight Words.Com

<http://www.sightwords.com/phonemic-awareness/>

Don't be fooled by the name! This site, sponsored by the Georgia Preschool Association, is a collection of resources designed to help teachers, parents, and caregivers teach a child how to read. There are tons of great activities, especially those on phonemic awareness. What is especially great is that there are demonstration videos so you can be sure to understand how the resource is to be used.

ReadingResource.net

[http://www.readingresource.net/phonemicawarenessactivities.html#gallery\[pageGallery\]/5/](http://www.readingresource.net/phonemicawarenessactivities.html#gallery[pageGallery]/5/)

Deanna Jump in PA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h8TwnZIXJio>

Let's Talk...Transitions!

By Jennifer Sajovec

Do any of these scenarios sound familiar?

When lining up for recess, two students started pushing each other and lost their recess privileges.

- A class returning from lunch took 30 minutes and two discipline referrals before math instruction started.

- A teacher was reprimanded by several peers and her principal during a whole-school staff meeting for her students' high noise level in the hallway.

Transitions

Transitions take time • Children often spend a lot of time waiting • Transitions can be stressful and frustrating • Skills such as cleaning up may reduce transition times and may lead to more time for children to be engaged in activities • When children are taught what they "should be doing," we are less likely to see problem behaviors • Many preschool teachers consider children's ability to independently make transitions a key skill

What are transitions, anyways?!? Well, it could mean a whole host of things.

1. Transitions from subject to subject
2. Transitions from activity to activity
3. transition from classroom to classroom
4. Transition from lesson to activity

Exploit Direction BEFORE You Move

How you want them to move...

tip-toe, silently
regular walk,

Give them something to do when they get there...

Create a visual signal

Cadence and repetition is your best friend.

Don't let them leave without a quick review

Give a "Go" signal when you want them to transition.

Don't let

Planning, Planning, and More Planning

At first being this explicit can be uncomfortable and shaky. Prepare a script ahead of time until you get the technique down pat.

Use Transitions to Your Advantage

Did you know that students in elementary need a "movement break" about every 15-20 minutes? For a lot of us, we have them stand up and stretch but then find that they are still quite antsy.

Try actually moving them from one place to the next. Move from

Approach Errors from a more Academic perspective

If a student didn't know how to do a math problem or did the math problem wrong, you would simply reteach that skill/strategy. The same attitude should be used for behavior in transitions. Assume that the student does not "know" how to perform to the expectation and reteach. Now balance that thoughtfully though. You shouldn't need to reteach things multiple times.

Also, think about pre-corrections. There may be a student or two who could use additional support during this time.

Give a Reward!

Table points are my favorite go to for rewarding

Helpful Sites to Visit:

<https://classroomcaboodle.com/teacher-resource/school-transitions/>

http://teachingld.net/pdf/teaching_how-tos/mcIntosh37-1.pdf