

MY KIDZ COTTAGE NEWSLETTER

We Value Each Child's Potential



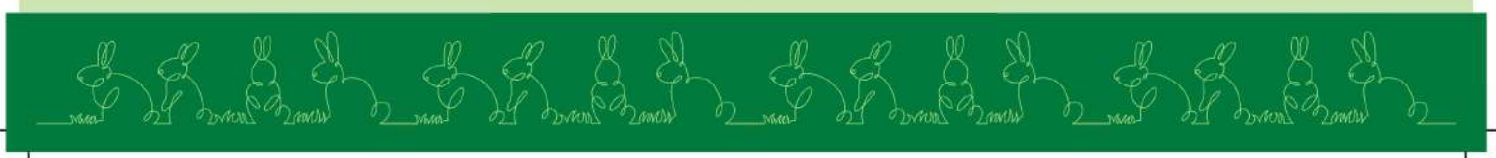
CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

TEACHER YOGES

We celebrated Chinese New Year with the children by enjoying a lion dance, making dumplings and doing bunny crafts.

The children also had the snacks that they brought from home during the potluck session.

We hoped the children learned to understand the culture, origins and traditions of Chinese New Year.





FIELD TRIP: NATIONAL GALLERY SINGAPORE

TEACHER YOGES

The children had an amazing experience to visit the National Gallery on 27th February 2023 with their parents.

Objectives

1. The children learned to appreciate art and nature
2. The children learned to observe 2D or 3D sculptures and installation



WHAT'S UP?

Myself, My Body: Body Part Identification

TEACHER JEFF

Learning to recognize body parts can be made fun and engaging for children with a few simple strategies.



1

Song and Games

There are many songs and games that can help children learn body parts. For example, "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes" is a popular song that can help children identify body parts while also getting some exercise.

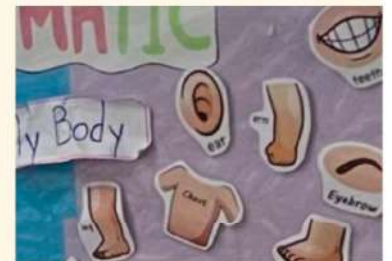
2

Pretend Play

Use pretend play to help children learn about different body parts. For example, you can play doctor and have your child identify different body parts, or play "Simon Says" and have your child touch the body part you name.

3

Visual Aids



Use pictures or flashcards with illustrations of body parts to help children learn and recognize them. You can also use a mirror to show children their own body parts and help them learn the names.

4

Books

There are many children's books that can help teach children about their bodies, such as "From Head to Toe" by Eric Carle or "My Amazing Body: A First Look at Health and Fitness" by Pat Thomas.



Number Patterning

TEACHER KAI YING

In January, children used two different colours of straws to make a necklace with a simple pattern — the ABAB pattern. They learnt about recognising patterns, tried to copy the patterns, and created their own patterns.



DATA COLLECTORS



A simple counting activity that can be done at home.

In this activity, children will take on the role as data collectors. They will hunt around the house to count up and record how many of each object they can find around them. There are 7 things that children can go around the house to search for. While going around to search for the items, children are encouraged to make tally marks whenever they find one. After which, write down the actual number beside the tally marks. Take your time and make sure you accurately tally mark all of the data that can find in your house!

Materials needed: Paper and pencil

Look around your house for the following items:

1. Doors
2. Windows
3. Rooms
4. Chairs
5. Tables
6. Clocks
7. Mirrors

Questions:

- Which has the most number of items?
- Which has the least number of items?
- Why is that so?

Teaching children to count helps children to learn the right sequence and promote the understanding of the meaning of numbers. When children make tally marks, they are strengthening their number knowledge and their ability to visualise numbers in their minds. These early math concepts build a foundation for more complex mathematical processes in the future.



Water Play

TEACHER SRI

During March, our school conducted water play activities for all level pupils.

Water play is a fun and soothing activity where children can play with others. All children can take part and learn through playing.



The teachers would fill up three tubs with water. After which, the children can take turns to play in the tubs. The teachers would also blow bubbles to make it more exciting.

Winston says that he likes bubbles while Adam says that he likes sitting in the tub. Water play is a good activity for the children during hot weather. They can splash and have fun with other children which makes the day enjoyable and fun.



FUN WITH FRIENDS

TEACHER KHARUSHNI



TABLE TENNIS

The children are paired together and take turns to hit the ping pong ball using the paddles. First, the children will try it with one side of the racket, turning the wrist to the right. Then do it again, to the left.



CATAPULT LAUNCH BALL

The children are paired together to play this game. They will put the ball into the transmitter aperture. Use their thumb to press on the switch and the ball will fly out! This is an excellent activity for eye-tracking and body co-ordination.



These activities help to develop their eye-hand coordination, gross motor control, fine motor controls, balance, and body coordination. In the process, building acceleration, speed, agility, and flexibility. It also helps children to learn about turn-taking!

DIY ART CORNER @ HOME

TEACHER CHRISTINA



Behind the mess of an arts and craft day at home are tons of opportunity to learn about new skills. Crafting helps develop, fine motor skills, counting and pattern recognition, shape and colour recognition, critical thinking, resilience, self-esteem, creative mindset, patience, resourcefulness, etc. These are lifelong skills that will surely be useful as they grow. Read along and find out how do we set up an “Arts and craft Corner” at home.

Start small and set rules

Use 3 to 4 materials at first and work your way up to different art mediums and tools for them to familiarise on how to use it. Make sure to set some rules in use of the art corner.

Enable easy clean up

Try to think of items or materials that are easier to clean up, tweak it to your child’s ability and account for your time to clean -up. You can use bigger buttons so they are able to grasp it better, use glue stick instead of white glue so there is lesser chance for spills, use a tray for messy art, etc.

Open and accessible

Arrange the corner to be accessible for your child so that they can freely use the area to promote independence.

Reduce, reuse, recycle

Use the things that you see in your household or out in your garden or the park. Branches at the park can be turned into a simple macrame display, the tissue roll and shoppee boxes to make a robot.

Simple and organized

Use organisers, trays, boxes to store materials. Label them with pictures and bigger fonts so that your child can keep their things on their own. Store tools and materials that needs assistance from an adult out of reach of children.





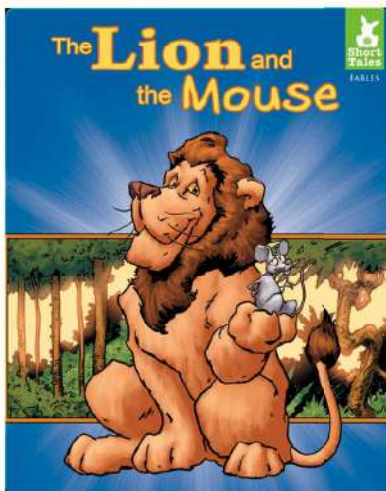
Engage Your Child

How do I spark their interest in arts? Kids have shorter span of attention, they can quickly lose interest in the activity and that is normal. Be realistic in arranging for an art activity, ie: My child can't draw or paint yet but he can tear paper- try paper tearing collage by printing out a picture of their favourite cartoon character.

Aside from the materials and tools to set up, your involvement in the process is also very important. Take this time to bond with your child and make new, fun and creative memories.

Book Recommendation

TEACHER JEFF



"The Lion and the Mouse" is a classic children's fable that tells the story of a mighty lion who was trapped in a hunter's net and then freed by a small mouse. The lion had previously disregarded the mouse's request for mercy, believing that such a small creature could not be of any help to him. However, the mouse's act of kindness and bravery prove to be invaluable to the lion when he finds himself in a desperate situation.

The story teaches the lesson that even the smallest or weakest of creatures can be of great value and that acts of kindness can be repaid in unexpected ways. It

also highlights the importance of not judging others based on their size or appearance and the value of showing compassion and mercy.

"To access the e-story, you may either visit <https://youtu.be/z46K8WqBFnw> or search for "The Lion and the Mouse - Fairy tale - English Stories (Reading Books)" on YouTube.

STOP - LISTEN - SHAKE

TEACHER PRISCILLA

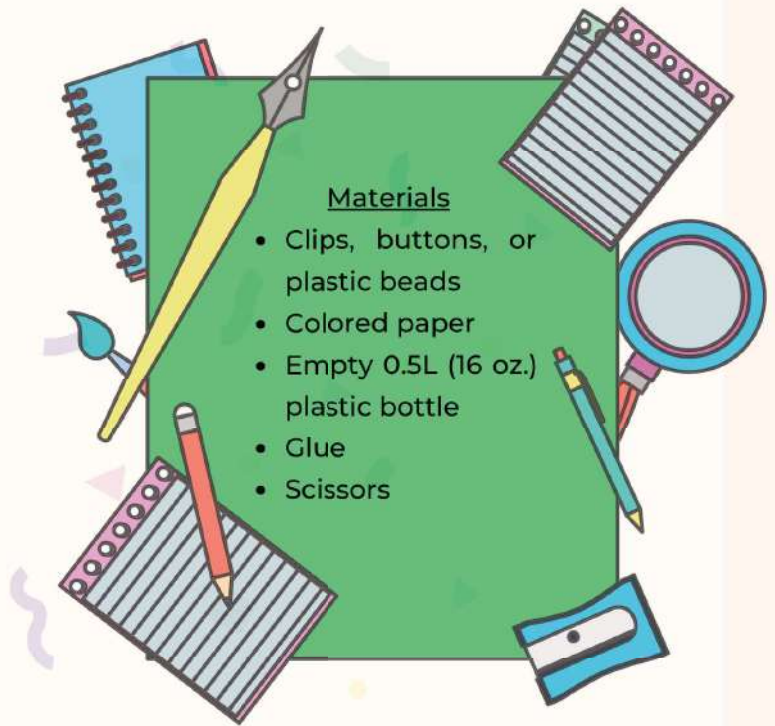
A great place to start with musical instruments is teaching when to play and when to stop playing. This simple activity encourages listening and following simple directions.

HOW TO MAKE

1. Wash the bottle so the label comes off
2. Fill the bottle with the plastic beads or beans
3. Screw the bottle cap back on tight
4. Cut out an appropriate amount of paper
5. Glue the paper on to the sides of the bottle

Materials

- Clips, buttons, or plastic beads
- Colored paper
- Empty 0.5L (16 oz.) plastic bottle
- Glue
- Scissors



HOW TO PLAY

1. Start with the shakers on the floor in front of the child, and their hands on their lap, because if a child is holding a shaker in their hands, it is almost impossible to resist giving it a bit of a shake.
2. Ask the children to listen for two words – 'play' means pick up your shaker and make music, and 'stop' means put your shaker on the ground and put your hands on your lap.
3. Play some music and say 'play' to begin playing and 'stop' to stop, stopping the music at the same time. As they kids get good at listening to your words, try it with just starting and stopping the music - Fast, Slow, Loud, Soft.
4. This is another simple listening game that introduces some beginning music concepts. Start with fast and slow – when you say 'fast' they play fast, when you say 'slow', they play slow!
5. Next try loud and soft, and then try with all four instructions together.

小小艺术家

余老师

艺术启蒙是孩子全面发展的重要组成部分，培养幼儿健康的审美情趣和敏锐的审美感知能力。丰富孩子的个人情感，使孩子从小热爱生活、热爱艺术、热爱一切美好的事物。他们在创作中获得自由快乐的体验。在艺术创作的过程中，孩子们通过会用视觉去感知事物的形状、比例、色彩等，这种观察力的练习能使孩子的智力得到很好锻炼和培养，所以就设计小小艺术家的活动：

材料准备：



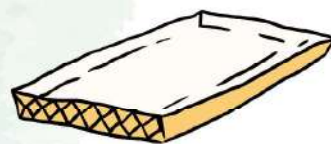
1. A4 纸



2. 弹珠若干



3. 彩色颜料



4. 托盘

步骤：

老师把 A4 纸放入托盘内后，拿起不同颜色的颜料让幼儿一起一边挤出颜料在纸上，一边让 幼儿说出颜色。再放入弹珠，引导幼儿扶着托盘上下左右摆动，弹珠会随着幼儿的动作经过 不同颜色画出抽象的线条，形成一副独一无二的抽象画。幼儿们在创作的时候观察不同颜色 的重叠形成的另一种颜色。

