



Orange City Elementary School

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Due to current conditions we will be holding our Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences remotely. The classroom teacher for your child will be contacting you via Class DOJO to arrange a day and time to have a conference. We would like to do these utilizing Google Meets and the teacher will send you the link once you have agreed to a specific day and time. These conferences will occur anytime between October 5th and November 6th. With this larger than usual amount of time frame for conferences we are hoping this will work well for you as parents. We look forward to sharing with you your child's progress and planning how to work together to provide your child the best educational experience possible.

October 2020

Contact Us:
Orange City Elementary
312 1st Street SW
Phone: 737-4606
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www.mocfv.org



T-Shirt Orders

We are sending home an order form for the Orange City Elementary T-shirts that we have given out. Although we give each new student, TK and Kindergarten a shirt we realize that some of the students have outgrown theirs. Here is an opportunity for you to order them a larger size if necessary for only \$5. Please have all orders returned by Wednesday, October 7th.

Dates to Remember:

October 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th - Early Dismissals

October 23rd - Report Cards home

October 23rd - End of 1st Quarter

October 30th - Fall Harvest Parties

November 6th - No School

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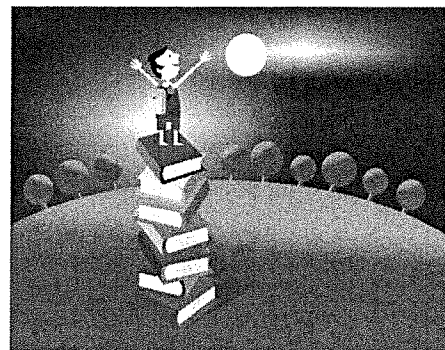
Orange City Elementary Birthday Book Program

OCE Library Adopt-A-Book Program:

Students can help raise additional funds for the library by simply adopting one of our NEW books. The cost is only \$2.00 per book. What does the child receive? They get to be the first person to check one of these high interest books out of the library. They also get

recognition with their name placed inside the front cover of the book. They may wish to honor someone else by including their name as well or they may simply want their birthday printed inside. What does the library gain? The money collected will be used to purchase more books for the students to enjoy!

Thank you for your generous support of the library!



Reading Strategy of the Month: Making Inferences While Reading

Inferring is what we used to call "reading between the lines." There are many kinds of inferences we make as we read. As you read the sentence, "While we roared down the tracks, we could feel the bounce and sway." You would make a location inference. You could infer that the characters were on a train from the clues in the sentence. There are many other types of inferences and because each person's experiences are different, the art of inferring

takes the reader beyond the text to a place only he or she can go. To infer, in a pure sense, is to build meaning.

Proficient readers draw inferences, make predictions, and draw conclusions or new ideas from the text. The clues from the author's writing and the reader's prior knowledge (schema) enable the child to make inferences.

We hope as you read with your children this month you will help

them extend their comprehension and understanding by making inferences. Questions to ask your child:

1. Can you infer what is about to happen? Why did you make that inference?
2. What did you already know that helped you make that inference?
3. What words or ideas from the author helped you to know that?

Reading with your Child

Keep your child learning after you close the book.

Some of the best reading times take place after you've closed the book. Once you've finished your read-aloud time for the day, there are ways you can boost your child's reading skills even more. Following are some tips on what to do after you've closed the cover of the book. Ask your child:

- To tell you the story in his own words
- What would he do if he were in the story. In *Tom Sawyer*, would he want to be Tom or Huck? What would he do in Crispin's place in the Newberry

Award book, *Crispin, The Cross of Lead*?

- To make connections to his own life. Has he ever felt like one of the characters in the book he's reading?
- To think about different points of view. How would *Little Red Riding Hood* be different if it were told from the wolf's side?
- What did he like and what he didn't like, Why? You might even challenge him to write a review of the book.
- To talk about lessons he has learned from the book. For example, what did he learn about managing his temper

from the story of Daren McCall in *Center Court Sting*?

- To find locations where books were set. Get out maps or a globe. Find the countries or cities mentioned in favorite books.

Encouraging Writing

Don't point out every error when helping with writing.

Make sure the way you respond to your child's writing motivates improvement. Avoid simply looking for mistakes. And never fix errors for your child.

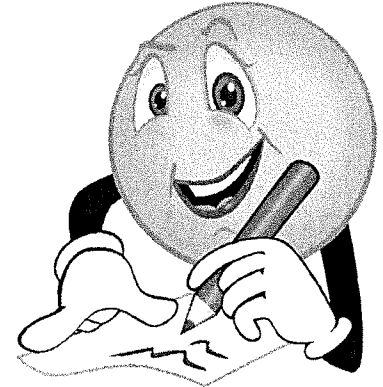
First look for something specific to praise. Say, for instance, "The beginning really grabs my attention." "I like the way you organized your thoughts." "This phrase is very lively!" "Your spelling really has improved."

Then comment on the message your child is trying to convey. Does it make sense and does your child support what she be-

lieves or feels? How does it sound if she reads it aloud?

Ask questions that will help clarify or bring more detail to her message:

- "What are you trying to say here?" "Do you think this logically follows that?"
- "Can you give some reasons why you think that?" "Do you have an example of this?"



Tips for approaching changing "bad" behaviors

We have all tried to communicate with a child that is not behaving in a positive way. What are some things that we, as adults, sometimes do that are not exactly helpful in these situations? Things like yelling, criticizing, or insulting do not work when we are trying to correct a child's behavior. Instead, we should try to keep the following tips in mind.

1. Make comments about the behavior itself, not the child.

- This will help the child to realize that it is the behavior that is making you angry, and not the child.

2. Avoid using criticizing language.

- Using criticism will only serve to destroy a child's confidence and motivation. They will eventually think that they cannot do anything right, so why even try anymore?

For example, instead of saying "Stop being lazy", say something like, "I would like you to make your homework a priority."

3. Avoid giving a "you" message ("You are lazy") and instead give an "I" message ("I am upset about...").

- Once again, the words you decide to use will determine how your child reacts to what you are trying to say. If it comes across in a condescending way, they will most likely be less likely to listen and change the behavior.

So, these are a few of the things that do not work to change an unwanted behavior, what are some things that do?

1. Praise them for the good behavior you see instead of always focusing on the bad. Examples of this are:

- Saying how you feel: "I love the way you..." or "I appreciate..."
- Describing what you see: "I can see you put a lot of effort into your school project."

- Praising progress: "You spelled every word correctly on your spelling test this week!"

2. Make comments that encourage your child to conclude something positive about themselves.

- "I appreciate how you are being so kind to your sister"

- Child concludes: "I am capable of being kind."

By no means is this section meant to be taken as a flawless model for changing undesirable behaviors. We are simply sharing with you some of the methods we have found to be effective.

October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 Sept	28	29	30	1	2 Early Dismissal 1:15 PM	3
4	5	6	7 OCE T-shirt Orders Due	8	9 Early Dismissal 1:15 PM	10
11 Mrs. Schmits' & Mrs. K. Boersma's Birthday	12	13 Vi De Jong's Birthday	14 Jason Kleinhesselink's Birthday	15	16 Early Dismissal 1:15 PM Mrs. Alsum's Birthday	17
18	19 Mr. Andersen's Birthday	20	21	22	23 Early Dismissal 1:15 PM Report Cards Home End of 1st Qrt	24
25	26	27 Picture Retake Day Mrs. Van Wyk's Birthday	28	29	30 Early Dismissal 1:15 PM Fall Harvest Parties	31