

Dolphin Pod Post

Dr. Charles R Drew Elementary School

Upcoming Dates

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 Makeup
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 16 Arts Assembly
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 Release/ Parent
 Teacher
 Conferences
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 Kindergarten

Parent Visitation Event: Drew will be hosting parent visitation day on Friday, November 11th from 9:40 - 10:25. . Remember to bring an ID and sign into the main office before joining us in our classroom.

Parent Teacher Conferences: We will be hosting parent teacher conferences on November 21 & 22. Please look out for a reminder from your child's teacher, about your scheduled date and time. We will be able to meet in person or on Zoom. Translation service is available upon request. We look forward to discussing your child's progress.

In school we will be learning about...

Reading

In this unit, your child will explore how characters differ in various ways, from the way they look to the way they act. For example, in the fable "The Tortoise and the Hare," students discover that the tortoise is patient and hardworking while the hare is boastful. Your child will also discover how characters in realistic fiction differ from one another just as people in real life are not all the same. Your child will think about how he is like and different from the characters he reads about. The selections include a variety of genres, including animal fantasy, fables, poems, and realistic fiction.

Math

During the next few weeks, our math class will explore triangles, squares, rectangles, hexagons, and circles. We will learn to recognize and name shapes based on the number of sides and corners instead of naming a shape based strictly on what it looks like. Students will sort flat shapes according to these characteristics. For example, students may say, "This shape is long and skinny and doesn't look like a hexagon, but it has six sides and six corners so I will put it in the hexagon group!"

Social Studies & Science

In **Social Studies** we will be exploring how the lives of people today are different from the lives of people who lived long ago. In **Science** students will expand their exploration of weather. They learn to make weather observations. They explore rain and construct a rain gauge.

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Every Story Has Characters

In this unit, we'll read fables and other genres of fiction featuring a variety of characters, and think in depth about the question "How are people different?" Here are some activities designed to continue the conversation about characters, to build on the skills and concepts your child is learning in school. I know exploring this topic together will be fun for both of you!

Topic Connection

Character Twenty Questions

Play the game "Character Twenty Questions" with your child, or with your whole family. Unlike the traditional game, players must choose only characters, not places or things. Invite your child to think of a favorite character from a book, movie, TV show, etc. The character can be real, fictional, or fantastical, but your child should not say who it is aloud. Next, ask your child yes/no questions about the character, such as "Is he or she an animal?" "Is the character from a book?" Keep asking until you guess who the character is. Then switch roles so that you think of the character and your child asks questions.

Vocabulary Connection

Behaviors in Action

Your child is learning new words associated with characters' actions or how they behave, such as **crawled, roared, laughed, cried, walked, raced, argued, growled, whispered, grumbled, and barked**. Review the meaning of these words with your child by acting them out together. Discuss where you've seen these actions before, both in stories and in real life. As you go about your daily activities—playing at the park, shopping at the market, visiting the library—encourage your child to keep on the lookout for these behaviors in action.

Comprehension Connection

Compare-a-Character

Your child will be reading a variety of well-known stories featuring a range of characters, from the angry bears in "Goldilocks" to the hardworking and underappreciated Little Red Hen. Making connections between self and characters helps readers better understand characters and their actions, which supports overall comprehension. Encourage your child to consider which of the characters she or he is most like, and why. Divide a sheet of paper in half. Label one side with the character's name and your child's name on the other. Then help them write down or draw the similarities.

Phonics Connections

I Spy a Sound

In this unit, your child is learning and practicing the /s/ sound, as in *snake, sing, and soup* and the /t/ sound, as in *turtle, toes, and tomato*. Choose one of the two letter sounds, or both, for an extra challenge, and play I Spy a Sound by identifying words you hear during the day that begin with that sound.

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EUREKA MATH™ TIPS FOR PARENTS

GRADE K | MODULE 2 | TOPIC A | LESSONS 1-5

KEY CONCEPT OVERVIEW

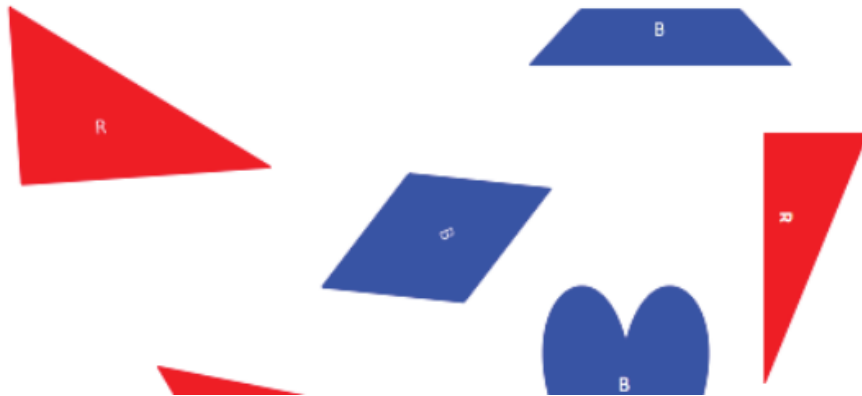
During the next week, our math class will explore triangles, squares, rectangles, hexagons, and circles. We will learn to recognize and name shapes based on the number of sides and corners instead of naming a shape based strictly on what it looks like. Students will sort **flat shapes** according to these characteristics. For example, students may say, “This shape is long and skinny and doesn’t look like a hexagon, but it has six sides and six corners so I will put it in the hexagon group!”

You can expect to see homework that asks your child to do the following:

- Identify triangles, rectangles, hexagons, and circles in a group of shapes.
- Reason about which characteristics (sides and corners) determine how to classify a shape.
- Draw various shapes.

SAMPLE PROBLEM (From Lesson 2)

Color the triangles red and the other shapes blue.



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HOW YOU CAN HELP AT HOME

- Identify shapes, first by their sides and corners and then by their names.
- Play Beep Number. Say three to four numbers in order, but replace one number with the word “beep.” For example, if you say, “5, 6, 7, beep,” then your child responds, “8.”
- Use uncooked spaghetti, string, pipe cleaners, or sticks to make various shapes. Ask your child, “How many corners (or sides) does this shape have?” Because shapes come in many sizes and orientations, create some examples that are atypical to broaden your child’s understanding of different shapes. (See images.)



TERMS

Flat shapes: Closed figures (e.g., squares, rectangles, circles, triangles, and hexagons) that have width and height but no depth; also known as two-dimensional shapes.

