



The Kindergarten Chronicles

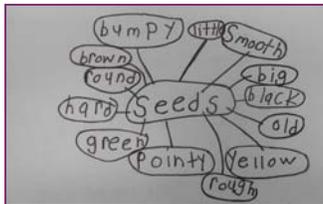
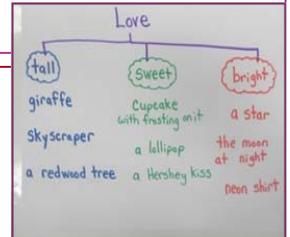
Robyn Markovic, RPDP

Dawn Grunwald, Goolsby Elementary School

I Love you as... Teaching Similes in Kindergarten



Sunday, May 11, is almost here! In my classroom, we are making cards for our mothers, guardians, or a special parent figure in the students' lives. First, I introduced the students to similes by reading *Quick as a Cricket* by Audrey Wood. The students learned that similes compare two items by using *like* or *as*. We made a class Tree Map with the word "Love" as the topic. We then brainstormed how sweet we love our parent or special parent figure, how tall we love our parent or special parent figure, how loud we love our parent or special parent figure, etc. Students then used the information from this class Tree Map to create their own poem about "Love".



Connecting Science and Literacy

We are observing seeds, planting seeds, and recording the growth of our seeds in a science notebook. To introduce students to this unit, I brought in different types of seeds and had the students observe them for various attributes. Students then made a Bubble Map of adjectives that described the seeds. Through such observations and recordings, many new vocabulary words were introduced to the students as they brainstormed words such as smooth, rough, pointy, bumpy, etc. The students used these various describing words to then create a poem about seeds using the format of the poem "I Like Bugs" by Margaret Wise Brown. The poem about seeds can be written individually or you can put these describing words on index cards and build a poem together, whole group, using the pocket chart. Later, these materials can be transferred into the pocket chart station. Students can manipulate the index cards to create new poems about seeds to read aloud and build fluency.

BUGS

I like bugs.
Black bugs.
Green bugs.
Bad bugs,
Mean bugs,
Any kind of bug.
A bug on a rug,
A bug in the grass,
A bug on the sidewalk,
A bug in a glass,
I like bugs.



Round bugs,
Shiny bugs,
Fat bugs,
Buggy bugs,
Big bugs,
Ladybugs,
I like bugs!



~ by Margaret Wise Brown

Parent Engagement: Research on a Nonfiction Topic

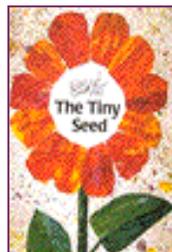


As part of the students' homework this month, I am going to have each child choose an insect to study. I will assist the child in finding two resources pertaining to the insect of his or her choice. Students will then create a poster, with parent assistance, explaining the attributes of the insect. What does it look like? What can it do? What does it eat? Students will draw a diagram of the insect and label the body parts. Students will orally explain to the class at least five facts about their insect by referring to the information on their posters.

I am focusing on the author and illustrator Eric Carle this month.



The Tiny Seed is an excellent book to read while observing and planting seeds. In addition, he has written many fictional books about various insects. These texts are fun to use as companion texts with informational books about various insects.



L.K.5 With guidance and support from adults, explore word relationships and nuances in word meanings.

SL.K.2 Confirm understanding of a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media by asking and answering questions about key details and requesting clarification if something is not understood.

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Bill Hanlon, Director

Have you registered for the June Literacy Conference? There are still spaces available. Email Robyn Markovic for specifics.

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