

Letter & Word Walls A Bridge

What is Known

What is New



Words

Word
Knowledge

Group Words = Child views self as competent reader
Child views self as a writer

Thinking Outside the Box: Thematic Unit for book: _____

Environmental Print Materials:

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Letter Wall Words:

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Learning Center Materials/Activities:

| Materials | Activities |
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Other

Thinking Outside the Box: Thematic Unit for book: _____

Environmental Print Materials:

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Letter Wall Words:

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Learning Center Materials/Activities:

| Materials | Activities |
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Other

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Thinking Outside the Box: Thematic Unit for book: _____

Environmental Print Materials:

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Letter Wall Words:

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Learning Center Materials/Activities:

| Materials | Activities |
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Other

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Keeping Kids at the Center

- ✓ Play-based curriculum is developmentally appropriate for all children
- ✓ Meets children where they are
- ✓ Most successful in learning center arranged environment



#1. Observe

Learn about them
How do they learn best



#5 Observe and Evaluate

Take notes while playing
Reflect - success or continue



#2. Set Goals

Short- and long-term goals
Clear, descriptive, observable and measurable



#6. Mix well and Repeat

Go back to Planning Step #3



#3. Plan

Set up environment for learning
Let children explore



#4. Implement

Play with children
Know when to exit

Seven Faces of an Early Childhood Educator - Setting up Learning Centers



Children access easily

Enough materials for children



Give adequate time

Provide model for use



Set up for self-regulation



Resources

Beneke, S.J, & Ostrosky, M., Katz, L. G., *Calendar Time for Young Children: Good Intentions Gone Awry*, *Young Children*, May, 2008, 12-16.

Blackwell W. & Swicegood, P. Using Word Walls to Promote Literacy Skills and Social Behavior Success for Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders, *An online Journal for Literacy Educators*, Vol 3, Issue 5, December 2017.

Giles, R Mc & Tunks, D.W, *Children Write Their World: Environmental Print as a Teaching Tool*, *Dimensions of Early Childhood*, Fall, 2010, Vol. 38, Number 3, 23-29.

Isbell, R., Exelby, B., *Early Learning Environments that Work*. Beltsville, MD: Gryphone House Publishers.

National Center on Program Management and Fiscal Operations: Strategic Use of Consultants: An Interactive Guide for Head Start and Early Head Start Leaders. *Taking a Fresh Approach - Adult Learning Principles*.

Neuman, Susan B. Wright, Tanya S., *The Magic of Words: Teaching Vocabulary in Early Childhood Classrooms*, *American Educator*, Summer, 2014, 4-13.

Why Professional Development Matters. By Hayes Mizell, available online free download: www.learningforward.org/advancing/shypdmatters.cfm.

Center signs and letter wall items used for demonstration & display are from Teachers Pay Teachers:

Editable Classroom Banners by Especially Education

Editable Word Wall Cards/Building Bricks/Legos Inspired Theme by Teachers Toolkit

Editable Word Wall: No-Prep Letters and High Frequency Words by Print Path OT

Picture Word Wall Cards by Adventures in Kinder and Beyond

Bats Word Walls: Portable Word Wall & Little Books, Fall Word Walls by Differentiation Station Creations

Owl Mini Science Unit by Kinder Inspiration

Center Signs for Preschool, Pre-K and Kindergarten by Pocket of Preschool

Word Wall Cards & Headers for Over 300 Sight Words! By A Pinch of Kinder

Birds Unit: Life Cycle, Facts, Interactive Notebook Pages and More by Amanda Richardson

A+ Duck Life Cycle Labeling & Word Wall by Regina Davis

Number Order, Number Concepts - Cookie Sheet Activities Volume 2 by Make Take Teach

Pattern Block Mats by Erica Made Designs (www.confessionsofahomeschooler.com)

Handwriting Practice Sheets/Name Practice Editable by Teaching in the Tongass

Emotions Word Wall by Nyla Phillips-Martin, mscraftymyla.blogspot.com

Thinking Outside the Box: Environmental Print: More than a Letter Wall - Region 20 Workshop -Marguerite Cherry