



# November News

The month of November is already upon us. We have done so much learning already and are looking forward to many more learning opportunities this coming month! Read on to find out what's going on in 1A.



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## What's Up With Reading

Successful readers have a lot of different tools in their tool belts! We have been working on filling our belts this year. Here is what we have learned so far...

**Sight Words-** These are the 'glue' that holds our reading together. Sight word lists are made up of the most commonly found words in text and they are organized in order of frequency. It is for this reason that students must be able to read through the lists without hesitation before moving on. When students know these words well they are able to build a strong foundation as readers. Please remember that even if your child has passed certain words that reviewing them periodically is key to ensure retention.

**Animated Literacy-** When unknown words come their way students are armed with their knowledge of the letters and

letter sounds. We have also been learning all about combo sounds. These are letters that when stuck together make a completely new sound. If sight words are our glue than Animated Literacy is the tape measure that helps us to carefully measure our words and plan where to go next. Check out the combos below!

Combo Sound	Key Word	Action
ay/ai	Yay!	Put your hands in the air like you are cheering.
ir/ur/er	turn	Point your finger in the air and turn it around in a circle.
ing	ding	Pretend to ring a doorbell.
oo	Like in the words look and book.	Pretend that you have been winded and clutch your stomach.
sh	shiver	Wrap your hands around your body and shiver.
th	throw	Pretend to throw a ball.
ch	chop	Make a chopping motion with your hand.

ar	arrrr like a pirate	Swing your arm like a pirate.
aw	awww like something is cute	Clasp your hands together and make big goo goo eyes.
or	or like the sound a seal makes	Clap your hands together like a seal.

We have not yet introduced all of these sounds but we are well on our way to adding them all to our list of tools.

**Reading rules-** These are our building plans, they help us where Animated Literacy cannot, with tricky words.

The magic 'e' rule teaches us that a magic e can bump the other vowel and make it say its name, like in the words 'make' and 'name'

We also learned that when two vowels go walking, the first one does the talking like in the words 'soap' and 'read'

Then there are always the jail words that just can't seem to follow the rules.

**AND when all else fails use**

**Reading Strategies-** These are the life lines to help students when they are stuck in a reading rut. Try to resist the temptation to give your child the word and instead guide

them by suggesting a specific strategy like the ones listed below.

- Sound it out
- Look for word families
- Look for small words in bigger words
- Look for letter combos or magic E's
- Try flipping the vowel to say either its long or short sound
- Skip the word and read on, but remember to go back and re read
- Ask yourself what would make sense
- Point to an unknown word and make the first sound



## Number Sense

Keep practicing numbers forward to and backwards from 20 in French. Students should also be able to recognize them out of order, as well as start counting up from and back from a number other than 1 or 20. Here is a fun idea! Have your child pick a number from a bag and create a group of that many, or better yet play with that many by making different groups. For example; 15 can be 10 and 5, or 6 and 9 and so on. I like to

do this with a favorite cereal so that you can then practice subtracting them by eating a few. Yum!

## Hands on Science!

Our colour unit has almost come to a close and with that comes the promise of new learning, my favorite!

Our next unit will focus on the five senses. Later this month we will be welcoming an instructor from Hands On Science into our classroom for a variety of hands-on activities that will help us to learn through touching, seeing, smelling, listening, even tasting! Although we will not be leaving the school, permission will be required for your child to join in. Please keep your eyes out for the permission slip which will be coming home soon.

## Remembrance Day Ceremony

This year's ceremony will take place on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am. All are welcome to attend.