

GOING THE DISTANCE



A weekly update for Distance Learners at Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School

MARCH 5, 2021

Important Dates:

Wednesday, March 10 No School, Teacher Professional Development
 Friday, March 12 Black History Month Virtual Celebration
 March 17, 18, 19 - Early Dismissal, Parent Teacher Conferences



We're wondering.....We have been seeing less Seesaw posts and want to rejuvenate you to continue to access the website. The Seesaw activities are intentionally designed

to ensure that your child has rich and balanced educational opportunities. To provide flexibility, you can access Seesaw when the timing is right for you. Many families "catch up" on Seesaw activities on the weekend. Additionally, teachers can easily revise lessons to meet the needs of your family. Seesaw is also an important way the teachers learn about your child's skills and is one way your child connects to the school community. Please contact us if you have any questions or if we can assist you in any way.

Friday Try Day: 3/12

Pineapple



Look at it. What do you notice? Does it have a smell? How does it feel? Do you see a pattern? Perhaps you can draw a picture of what you see. Cut it open. How is it different on the inside? How does it taste? Do you like it? What about the rest of the family? Let us know you tried it by posting a picture on Seesaw and telling us about your observations.



What do you like to eat for breakfast?

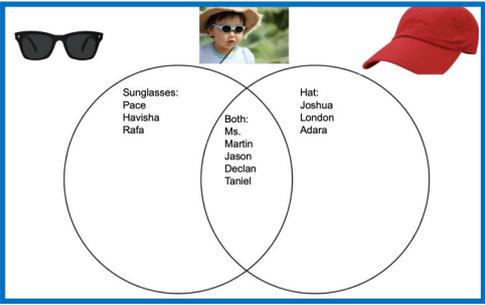
<p>The Distance Ducks</p> <p>London: I like cupcakes, strawberries, and donuts.</p> <p>Jason: Ice cream, donuts.</p> <p>Declan: Daddy's cereal, pancakes and syrup. Raspberries and blueberries.</p> <p>Havisha: I eat bread and milk.</p> <p>Pace: Pizza, cheese pizza!</p> <p>Taniel: I like pancakes and syrup.</p> <p>Adara: Cereal.</p>	<p>The Distance Dolphins</p> <p>George: I like blueberry yogurt and strawberry yogurt.</p> <p>Arjun: I ate pancakes with syrup before.</p> <p>Amery: Mango.</p> <p>Corbyn: I like bagels and pancakes.</p> <p>Shreya: Marshmallows.</p> <p>Darshik: Pancakes!</p> <p>Mrs. Redmond: I drink smoothies.</p> <p>Miss Martin: I like non-dairy yogurt.</p>
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You might have noticed some changes to morning meeting this past week. Since our Second Step curriculum has concluded, we are adding a question of the day. Questions of the day have many benefits:

- Every child has a voice!
- It builds community through shared information both verbal and written. The children (and adults) get to know different things about one another.
- It embeds language, literacy and math in a meaningful way.
- Reading the questions supports the development of emergent literacy skills. Children learn to recognize their names in print, understand that print has meaning, track the print in the sentence and use picture cues to help them understand the text.
- Graphing answers helps students understand and use mathematical language such as more than, less than, equal, and the same.

Ms. Martin from Distance Learning Classes Dolphins and Ducks represented knowledge from Questions of the Day in a different ways.



Nurture your child's natural inclination toward mathematics by providing experiences for exploration:

Offer containers filled with small treasures. Think of lids, buttons, shells, beads, pieces of ribbon, pinecones, acorns, and similar items as the tools of math learning. Preschoolers will naturally sort them by size, color, and shape; they will count and compare collections; and they will talk about what they are doing and why—especially if a grown-up joins in. *I saw you examine each button before placing some of them in the blue bowl. What were you looking at?*

Talk about math. Include math talk when cooking, playing at the park, and at bedtime. *Our family has five people eating dinner. How many ears of corn should we shuck? How many times do you want me to push you in the swing? We can read three books together before turning out the light. You can choose three books from the shelf.*

Measure things. Preschoolers enjoy using measuring tools, like rulers and tape measures, and creative items, like shoes and plastic chains. Ask questions that invite your child to measure something. *How wide is your bed? How tall is our dog? How many shoes long is the carpet?*

Build together. Make buildings from wooden blocks, Legos, a collection of recycled items, or shoe boxes with the tops taped shut. Try masking tape to hold the structures together. Talk about shapes, sizes, widths, and heights as you build. Then get out the tools and take some measurements. *How did you make the building so high? How wide is the bottom of the structure?*