

Print Awareness

Opening: The week before, I asked the children to bring in examples of anything that they saw that had printed words on it. They brought me in newspapers, cans, milk cartons, magazines, books, things ripped out of magazines, etc. I made hand outs explaining print awareness for the Adults I used my host puppet to talk about Print Awareness and had him point out signs in the Library that meant something. Ex. Bathroom, Children's Room, etc. the theme I used was Circus. I brought two replicated Circus posters from the early 1900's that had the word CIRCUS at the time and announced where and what was going to be shown.

Opening Song: We use the same song for all story times: Good Morning, Good Morning,
Good Morning to you. (2 times)
Good Morning is what we say.
Good Morning is what we do.
Good Morning, Good Morning,
Good Morning to you.

Each week we then discuss what season it is and how the children know that it is that season and then we sing a song about the season. In this case it was Spring: In the Springtime garden, rosy morning glow. Sunshine falling, calling, falling seeds are waking so.

Weekly Stretch: We stretch in a variety of ways. Ex. Pretend we are rainbows and grab the colors as we move our arms in an arc. Cat stretch, that includes being a cat with a back high up and a loud Meooooooooow. Grabbing clouds and having it rain on the trees, our heads, our shoulders, our knees, our toes and the ground. **This week we pretended to be different circus animals by stretching like they would.**

Theme Fingerplays: Circus

Lions and tigers come see them all
Elephants that balance on round spongy balls
Horses that prance and dance all around
Come on the circus has come to town.

Circus Elephant

A circus elephant I went to see (Hold hand over eyes like binoculars)
He had four legs and was bigger than me. (Hold up four fingers and then point to self)
He had two ears big and round (Show two fingers and make a circle with hands)
And one long nose that made a sound errrrr (Make elephant trunk with arm)

Story: To The Big Top by Jill Esbaum This book has great writing on the cover so we talked about that a bit. I picked and chose sentences throughout the book to narrate the illustrations. Ex. "A yawning hippo" Where in the picture is that? "The smell of popcorn," What does popcorn smell like? "Then the monkey rattled his cage." Where is the monkey and what does he have in his hand? Etc.

Craft: We had pre made circus animal frames that had the name of the animal that it represented on it. The children decorated the frames with markers, stickers, etc.

Story: Emeline at the Circus by Marjorie Priceman. This book has the word that is represented in the illustrations in red and the rest of the text in blue. The children would point out the letter and we would guess what it was based on the illustrations.

Ending Song: This is sung every Story time. Goodbye, Goodbye, Good bye. (2 times)
Just hum a tune,
I'll see you soon.
Goodbye, Goodbye, Good bye.