

Gumbo Limbos



"TO STIMULATE LIFE, LEAVING IT THEN FREE TO DEVELOP, TO UNFOLD, HEREIN LIES THE FIRST TAKE TO THE EDUCATOR. IN SUCH A DELICATE TASK, A GREAT ART MUST SUGGEST THE MOMENT, AND LIMIT THE INTERVENTION, IN ORDER THAT WE SHALL AROUSE NO PERTURBATION, CAUSE NO DEVIATION, BUT RATHER THAT WE SHALL HELP THE SOUL WHICH IS COMING INTO THE FULNESS OF LIFE, AND WHICH SHALL LIVE FROM ITS OWN FORCES. THIS ART MUST ACCOMPANY THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD."

Maria Montessori

SIGHT WORDS

What are they and how do they help?

"Sight words" is the term for words that readers should recognize instantly. Recognition is important because sight words are so frequently used—making up, by some estimates, 50 to 75 percent of all words that children are likely to encounter. It is also important because many of them do not sound as they are spelled, making them difficult to sound out using knowledge of phonics. Having the sight words within his or her repertoire gives the child a better chance to grapple with more difficult and infrequent words without losing the sense of what is being read.

SPELLING BEE

Surprise spelling bees with the afternoon students are always fun. Recently the children have expressed an interest in having spelling bees on a more regular basis. I have decided to take this opportunity to teach the children their sight words. In each newsletter I will list five sight words that will be included in the Friday spelling bee. In order to reinforce the spelling of the sight words, I will discuss a word each day at circle time. If your child participates in the afternoon class, please go over these words with your child so that they will be prepared for Fridays Spelling Bee



Sound of the Week

mM

Word of the Week

Mangrove

Star of the Week

Edward



Sculpture Key West

On Friday, 25th of February the class will be visiting Sculpture Key West at Fort Zachary Taylor. The Bone Island Shuttle will depart MCS at 9:30 am and return at 11 am. Parent chaperones are welcome and appreciated. We will be sending permission slips home on Thursday. Please sign and return the permission slip by Wednesday, February 24. In order to cover transportation expenses and the park entrance fee please include \$5.

Great enthusiasm ensues when young children are given the opportunity to experience and interact with sculpture in such a unique forum. The children are respectful of the art, yet intrigued. To better understand the art Ms Vera, a coordinator of Sculpture Key West, will be our tour guide for the morning. I encourage all parents to take their children to art exhibitions, for art appreciation has no age limits. Asking questions about a piece of art and gaining a child's point of view is always an entertaining and fulfilling experience. To raise truly rounded individuals it is imperative that we instill an appreciation for art and culture at a young age.

Book of the Month

The sea, the storm, and the mangrove tangle.

By Lynne Cherry

*If you buy your child one book this year,
make it this one.*

Sight Words

a
and
away
big
blue

