

Tunstall's Tremendous T-Rexes



Classroom Behavior and Management

- Positive reinforcement is my approach to promote respectful behavior inside and outside the classroom. The school has adopted the Jacobson Jet Expectations that hang in each classroom and help support a school wide plan to promote positive behavior.
- JETS BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS:
- J-Join together to display good character
- E- Encourage a safe environment
- T-Take charge of your learning and actions
- S-Show respect to all members of school

Positive Reinforcements

Fun Friday
Character Jets
Treasure Box
Verbal Praise

Classroom Behavior and Management

Individual

Each student will receive a daily self—assessment sheet at the beginning of the week, called their Jacobson Jet Chart. Their behavior will be recorded on this sheet and go home each night and must be brought back the next day with parents' initials! Help make the connection between school and home and talk about your child's behavior that particular day with them.

@Class

When the whole class makes
Jacobson Jet choices together and
shows good character they are
rewarded by a handful of marbles
in the "Caught Showing Character
Jar". When the jar is full the
class will earn a celebration of
some sort that they vote on
together. This jar helps promote
teamwork and cooperation in the
classroom.

Reading

- Our district has adopted the Harcourt Reading
 - Program, which incorporates the Big 5:

 *Phonemic Awareness- the understanding that spoken words are made of individual sounds
 - *Phonics- the process of decoding and translating the written word into speech
 - Fluency- the ability to read with speed, accuracy and expression at an appropriate rate
 - *Vocabulary- the more words a student acquires, the better chance they will have for success in reading, writing, and spelling

 **Comprehension- the complex process of constructing meaning from
 - text

Reading

The reading block is 90 minutes long and is made up of 30 minutes of on grade level whole group instruction, followed by 60 minutes of guided reading groups and reading rotations. The reading groups are made to meet the individual needs of readers at their instructional reading level.

Reading

Once the school year gets underway, the children will be bringing home a book bag nightly. In this bag will be ability appropriate material for your child to focus on. I often send home a book/story 2 nights in a row.

Reading Goals:

- Master sound/symbol relationships
- Blend sounds to read a words
- Read with understanding
- Be an active participant in the learning process
- Develop listening skills through exposure to high
- quality literature selections Develop literal, logical, and critical thinking skills Develop oral reading fluency

Writing

- My students will follow a writing workshop model during writing time. Their writing block is an hour long each day and incorporates the following: teacher led mini-lessons, writing time, and sharing. During writing workshop throughout the year the following will be taught and addressed:
 - *Genre studies (stories, personal narratives, friendly letters, poetry, and reports)
 - *Writing process (prewriting, drafting, revising, editing and publishing)
 - *6 Traits (voice, conventions, sentence fluency, organization, ideas, and word choice)

Writing

Your child will be writing daily. You will note that many times his/her papers will have spelling and mechanical errors, which will not be corrected. I encourage students to enjoy writing by encouraging them and focusing on what they did do rather than what they did not. When I model through my writing and read alouds the students begin to incorporate and become aware of skills they need to include in their writing. The more opportunities that children have to write the more they begin to practice key writing skills.

MATH

Many different methods will be used to teach math concepts in my classroom. We will use a combination of hands on activities with manipulatives, exploration, drill and skill practice and games. These will be used to introduce, reinforce, and review concepts being taught.

Math Domains

- Kindergarten
- Mumerical Operations in Base Ten
- Measurement and Data
- Geometry
- Counting and Cardinality
- Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- First Grade
- Numerical Operations in Base Ten
- Measurement and Data
- Operations and Algebraic Thinking
- Geometry

Science

The district has adopted Harcourt science textbooks to supplement the standards covered in first grade. The science standards are broken into 6 major concepts: life science, physical science, earth and space, inquiry process, history and nature of science, and science in personal and social perspectives. From these categories we will be exploring many units like:

- ♣ Space
- *Living/nonliving things
- ⊕‡Life cycles
- → Matter (solid, liquid, and gas)
- *Animal and Plant Relationships
- **#**Habitats
- **Rocks

Social Studies

We are using the MacMillan/McGraw series, along with Harcourt readers to meet our social studies standards. The concepts of study for the year are:

- *American History
- *World History
- → †Civics/Government
- **Economics**



8:30-9:00 Morning Job

9:00-10:30 Reading Block

10:30-11:15 Social Studies/Science

11:15-11:55 Lunch/Recess

12:00-12:15 DEAR

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12:15-12:55 Writing Workshop 12:55-1:10 Recess

1:15-1:45 Specials

1:50-2:45 Math

2:45-3:00 Pack Up

Homework

Chandler School District Policy requires that first grade children have homework for about 10-25 minutes daily. Your child will be bringing home a blue folder every day. Please check the folder for items to return. Please make sure that your child brings this blue folder back to school everyday and you check it daily. If for some reason the folder gets misplaced let me know so I can provide the child with a new one. Homework is a golden opportunity to teach responsibility and good study habits. Homework will be given in a variety of ways in order to meet the needs of all students.

Homework

Daily reading logs: Next week your student will receive a reading book bag. In the bag will be the current book they are reading in reading groups along with a reading log. It is important that your child reads to you every night to practice fluency and comprehension and that you sign the reading log.

Homework

Weekly spelling homework: We will have weekly spelling words and take a spelling test each Friday. The spelling words will correlate with the sound of the week and vocabulary words. Spelling homework is mandatory and will be sent home Monday in the homework folders. Keep the list and practice sheet and turn it in on Friday so you can practice and study the words all week for the spelling test that takes place on Friday.

Evaluating Students

I use a variety of ways to evaluate each student. I find out what they know and understand by: daily observations, listening to oral responses and discussions, writing and reading conferences, formal assessments, observing them working and saving samples to show progress.

Star Student

Each week a student will be in the spotlight as our "Super Star". If your child is super star for the week, I will send home on the the Friday before their week a packet of directions.



- Monday- Please bring in your completed Student of the Week Poster. You will share it with your class today and we will hang it on our wall! Be creative!
- Tuesday- Please put an item in the mystery box write 5 clues about the item. You will give the clues to your friends and they will try to guess what it is. Try to make the clues tricky so we don't guess the item right away!

 Wednesday- Estimation Jar Choose your child's favorite treat to place in the Estimation Jar (keep the number of items a secret!) The students will all make guesses as to how many items are in the jar. Then we will see who was the closest and enjoy the treat!
- Thursday- How To- On this day you will teach the class how to do something you enjoy. Type the directions in sequential order in less than 10 steps. You will present the steps and teach the class the activity. You are welcome to bring any props you need. For example: How to Tie Your Shoe or How to Swing a Baseball Bat.
- Friday- The class will brainstorm a web of facts about our Super Star such as; our star's favorites, our star's family, words that describe our star, things our star likes to do, and any other facts the children know about the star! Classmates will use the web to write a letter to our Super Star. The letters will go home in a book the following week!



Birthdays

Dear Jacobson Families.

- We are very proud and excited to announce that Jacobson Elementary is making a commitment to support the health and well-being of our students, faculty, staff and community. We will be implementing a school-wide plan that will focus on making healthier choices as well as increasing our physical activity (even outside of your child's Physical Education class)! Here are a few ways that you can help us with our efforts to encourage healthy lifestyles:
- This year, our main priority will be to provide alternative ways to celebrate Birthdays.

Here are some NON - Food Birthday Treat Ideas:

- Buy a Birthday Balloon! The Jacobson Student Council will deliver a Mylar Birthday Balloon to the Birthday Boy/Girl's classroom on their special day. (Order forms are available in the front office or on our website.)
 - Join the Birthday Book Club Your student will celebrate their birthday by selecting a book of their choice. Their book will have a plague with their name and birthday on the inside cover. They will bring the book home to share with their family and then donate to our library for all students to enjoy. (Order forms are available in the front office or on our website.)
 - Bring a NON food treat for your classmates:
 - Pencils, stickers, crayons, mini-notebooks, cute erasers, post-its Polished rocks, shells or other natural items Bubbles

- Small toy or game
- A picture of the birthday boy or girl to hand out to the class.
- Bring your favorite toy, picture of your family, or something special to share with your class.

Snack

Snack is on an individual basis and need. Each child is responsible for their own snack if they choose to bring one. The students have an opportunity to eat snack in the morning during reading rotations around 10:00 and at their afternoon recess at 12:55.

Communication

I will communicate our standards and current areas of study along with special events in the monthly newsletter. The newsletter will be posted under me on the Jacobson website. The best way to communicate with me is through email, but I can always make time to meet in person when necessary.

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Volunteers

- While in the classroom you will sometimes be working with students, and or viewing student work and behavior. In order to maintain a professional atmosphere where students are safe to work, learn and play at their own levels, it is essential to keep all observations confidential. I ask that out of respect for the students and their varying learning abilities and personalities.
- Thanks for your understanding and cooperation on this policy and I look forward to you helping out in the classroom.

Tax Credit

All field trips will be funded through tax credit donations only. Tax Credit can also be used for classroom purchases. Married couples can donate up to \$400 and receive the whole amount back in their tax return. Any little bit helps and donations are due by December for this school year!

LET'S HAVE A GREAT YEAR!