

OUTSIDE THE BOX

10/19/2006



放眼世界

• ROMPE PARADIGMAS

A Publication of the Panama City Renaissance School, Inc.



Math *Making something EASY, Difficult?*

Math is supposed to be difficult, so many of us fret about how to teach our children “complicated” concepts. Funny, but we don’t worry much about reading, the spelling words we practice 3 or 4 times before each test, the stories the kids write and rewrite before they submit them, or the sports moves they practice over and over again.

If we would only take the same approach with math, it would be easy, very easy. Like reading or athletics, math requires repetition - doing a similar activity over and over again until the mechanics become second nature. For example, we don’t try to teach a child to pitch before he/she can throw a ball well. So like baseball, once the child understands the mechanics of a particular type of math problem, he/she can apply the general approach to similar types of problems. And we certainly don’t try to teach a child the nuances of arm position, ball grip, etc. until he/she has been practicing general pitching skills for some time. The same is true for math.

Theory should be the last step, rather than the first. After all, if we spent hours trying to tell our kids the roots of the English language and why we speak the way we do, most of our kids would be overwhelmed and never read a word. Most mathematical concepts including Algebra and Calculus can be taught in very simple, straight-forward ways. Let’s keep it that way until our children understand the mechanics well enough that we can challenge them with the meaning. And remember math like reading, spelling or baseball is all about repetition.

SILLY SCIENCE

Dates & Times

Tuesdays at 3:00 pm. starting Oct. 31

Ages:

3-6 (children must be accompanied by an adult)

Cost:

None. Open to the community. Tell your friends.



Spanish | Mathematics | English | Science | Mandarin | History



Happy Halloween

October *General admission begins.*

October 24 *Parent Meeting. 6:00 pm*

October 28-29 *Festival of Nations.
Downtown PC.*

October 30 *Halloween Party.*

October 31 *Silly Science begins.*

November 23-24 *Thanksgiving.*

December 1-2 *Festival of Trees.*

April 21 *Black-Tie Gala.*

After School Art every Monday @ 3:00

KINDERGARTEN

Teachers: Jian Yao, Cecilia Leathers

It is amazing to watch the kids read paragraphs in Mandarin (in characters) and handle basic addition problems with ease. In addition to math and Mandarin, the children explored static electricity, magnets, the five senses and plants. In English, the children are continuing to improve their reading skills and refine their handwriting abilities. Next month, they will build new Mandarin vocabulary, explore new science topics, learn more pinyin and continue to perfect their English reading, writing and spelling skills.

PRE-K

Teachers: Sonia Song, Cecilia Leathers

In English, the children have learned letters and sight words, are reading simple books, and are continuing to work on rhyming, blends and sentences. In Mandarin, the children have learned the numbers from 1- 20 and about 20 Mandarin words. They love signing songs to everyone they see. They also enjoy painting and coloring.

FIRST GRADE

Teachers: Sonia Song, Cecilia Leathers

In Mandarin, the children have a vocabulary of about 400 words. In addition, they continue to improve their reading and character writing skills. This month the children began multiplication in math and learned about insects, rocks, nutrition and microorganisms in science. Geography lessons covered the United States. In English, the children are reading fairly complicated chapter books and continue to learn about grammar. Also they have learned the first seven US presidents. And after a little over 2 months, all the children can read, write and speak in Spanish.



Fun at recess!

PANAMA CITY
RENAISSANCE
SCHOOL



100 N. MacArthur, Panama City, FL 32401 • PO Box 174, Panama City, FL 32402

850-215-8712 phone • 850-769-5148 fax • www.pcrschool.org