

SUMMER INTENSIVE PROGRAM FIRST WEEK HIGHLIGHTS

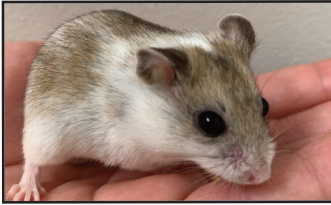
(submitted by Kate Quijano)

We are so excited to begin the pilot year of our OG summer intensive program. We are starting with a small enrollment of only 14 students who will be split into two groups based on age and ability level. Throughout April and May, I was busily recruiting students, holding virtual Open Houses to inform families about the program, doing enrollment, assessing students, and preparing for the summer. Most of this was still virtual, so our first day of the summer program was still my first time meeting everyone face to face and the first time I had taught in person in almost a year and a half.



Our program offers students the opportunity to engage in OG based reading and writing lessons, arts & crafts with a connection to the new OG skill, and gross motor activities/sports related to the new skill.

During our first week, my group learned about three different syllable types: closed, open, and magic E. Students acted out a story that helped to explain these syllable types. We learned that in an open syllable, the vowel can run for a long time and say its long sound (its name). We learned that in a closed syllable, the vowel can only run for a short time, so it says its short sound.



Next, students were introduced to the Magic E syllable type. These words also have a long vowel sound, but the vowel can't do it alone, it needs the power of Magic E to help it make its long sound. We even had a visit from our office pet "Magic E." Before the students got to meet Magic E, we asked them to guess what type of animal we had. We had all types of guesses ranging from lions to lizards. No one guessed that Magic E is actually a dwarf hamster. Everyone had fun seeing her act out the magic of this syllable type and getting a chance to pet her.

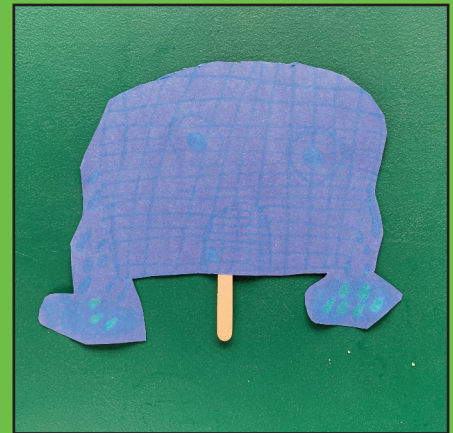
All of the students in my group already knew how to read closed syllables in single syllable words before beginning with us, but most of them never knew why the vowels were short in these words. This explanation of the reasons behind sounds is a huge part of what makes OG so different from other types of reading instruction. Now as our students get to harder words with more syllables, they will not have to rely on whole word memorization or guessing, they will know exactly what sound the vowel will make and why. They did a great job with the introduction to these three syllable types so we started looking at longer words and learned about syllable division patterns. Now they can all read two syllable words with a mixture of these three syllable types.

Some of our crafts for this week included making puppets to use in a story, creating houses with doors to illustrate open and closed syllables, painting vowels and decorating them with words that use that vowel, and writing words of different syllable types using paint or sidewalk chalk. We had so much fun this week. We can't wait to see what next week brings.



August 13th: New OG Cohort 1st Day and Facility Tour
August 16th - 20th: New OG Cohort Training Week

SUMMER INTENSIVE CRAFT CORNER



ORTON-GILLINGHAM SUMMER INTENSIVE PROGRAM

(submitted by Mary Baumgarten)



This summer Literacy Nassau is having its first ever OG Summer Intensive Program, and I am so happy to be a part of it! Our students will be learning in a supportive, relaxed, and positive atmosphere throughout the course of the 4-week program, which will utilize the Orton-Gillingham (OG) approach to help prevent summer regression. It is also a great chance for students who are new to the OG approach to become familiar with its principles and routine. The OG approach uses multisensory instruction to engage multiple pathways in the brain to help students learn to read and write more efficiently.

I am happy to say that our first day of the program went very well! It was so nice to meet our students, and I truly look forward to helping them learn. During our first day, students participated in an OG lesson in which they reviewed vowel sounds and learned the story of the Alphabet King. They also practiced learned words aka sight words, made Alphabet King puppets, and played a fun game of Alphabet Steal the Bacon. They ended the day by enjoying a story together.

As an educator, I understand the essential role that reading plays in learning as well as how reading is ingrained in all areas of our lives. I am therefore so excited to have the opportunity to help our participating students develop and strengthen their reading and spelling skills so that they become stronger, more confident readers and writers. I can't wait to watch them grow throughout the summer! I hope that both the skills they gain and the memories that they make during our program will help to make this an awesome summer for each and every one of them!



Students working on their puppets which will be used to tell a story explaining open and closed syllables.
Some playtime fun racing to find words with the assigned vowel sound.
Ending the day with Kate reading *How our Alphabet Grew*.

