

2: Kindergarten ELA LetterSounds PreInt

Speaker 1: It was the next lesson in our curriculum. It's really the main reason why. It's teaching the sounds of two letters that they haven't learned yet. That's really important because by the time they go first grade, they didn't know how the letters sound.

They're going to be learning what sounds these letters make, J and Q. Then they're going to be writing them and then identifying them when they're the initial sound in a word. It's going to be both fundamental for reading and writing later on. We're still in those building block or in that building phase where we're still learning the real foundational skills. But yeah, they'll need to know that in order to read and write later on.

We'll be in small groups so that will help with knowing how they're doing individually. They'll be white boards, writing on white boards so then I can see right away whether they can write the letters. Then we'll be taking a unit test also in about a week or so.

Part of Creed also is having class values. We go over those. We have a briefing at the beginning of every lesson. We go over those values. Then I have a star chart and they're always earning or losing stars throughout the day. That still works in kindergarten [02:00].

Basically just what sounds do these letters make is really the foundation, the big picture of it. It sounds so simple but it can drive a whole week.

I think being in small groups really helps. One is when they're in a small group, I'm talking to them pretty individually so then they feel like they're talking to me or they're talking to me too but it's not like they're sitting in a whole group having to be silent or whatever. They love the whiteboards and the pictures are engaging. Then the other centers that they'll be in when they're not in my group during language arts are really engaging as well. Well, I try to make them engaging.

But they're just fun games that review past sounds that they learned or sight words that they learned, making sentences with sight words. Yeah, all the games are basically based on sight words that they've learned. They have to at a independent levels that they're not needing to come and ask me questions. They'll get help so it's mostly review that they do.

We're receiving Creed professional development right now from UH and it's been the best professional development I've ever received as a teacher. It allows us to teach more efficiently and effectively because we're with a small group. It allows the kids to get so much more practice and review time when they're in the other centers. Assessments are a lot easier because we can ... I got to know my students a lot quicker this year. Within the first few weeks, I [04:00] already doing exactly what levels they are at just because everyday I was listening to every or working with them on a pretty personal level.

They're definitely skills that they're going to need to use one day. Then one of the things that I'll be doing is showing them pictures so that they can make connections to the words because some of the words that they see, they're words they haven't heard of before or they see it and it reminds them of, "Oh, my auntie has that," or it helps them to make personal connections as well.