



UPPER ELEMENTARY PLAN 3

Daily Reading and Response Journal:

- Read a story book for a minimum of 1 hour per day.

Language:

Positives, Comparatives, and Superlatives.

These are different types of adjectives that communicate relativity.

a. Example:

- Positive: *small*
- Comparative: *smaller*
- Superlative: *smallest*

b. Create sets of three using objects that you find in your homes that match the descriptions of the adjectives below.

Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Set 1: small, smaller, smallest
- Set 2: fragrant, more fragrant, most fragrant
- Set 3: tasty, tastier, tastiest
- Set 4: tall, taller, tallest
- Set 5: heavy, heavier, heaviest
- Set 6: create your own sets!

A root word with a prefix and a suffix is part of a word family.

Make five words that have the following prefixes and suffixes, making their own word family.

Use your new words in sentences.

a. Word Family

- un** + root + **ed** (like un + taste + ed - untasted)
- re** + root + **ing** (like re + writ + ing - rewriting)
- dis** + root + **ful** (like dis + trust + ful - distrustful)
- pre** + root + **ed** (like pre + cook + ed - precooked)

Writing Conferences: Please reach out to me by email at victoria@edenmontessori.co.za if you would like to schedule a writing conference. I would love to hear what you are writing about!

Spelling

Ideas for spelling words this week

- shine, tie, pie, lie, die, why, cry, fly, try, sky.

- b. hillside, gallop, spell, shell, penny, sunny, worry, sorry, bless, grass.
- c. whistles, friends, nerves, cartoons, questions, wristwatches, addresses, libraries, flurries, duties.
- d. meatball, grandmother, sunshine, rainbow, anything, sometimes, someone, popcorn, nobody.
- e. absence, banquet, cafeteria, dangerous, effect, familiar, gaiety, handkerchief, ignorant, jealousy.

Each time, make sure you:

1. Read the word aloud (while looking at it in written form).
2. Spell the word aloud, one letter at a time.
3. Attempt to spell without looking at the word (using one of the above methods).
4. Check that you spelled the word correctly.
5. Create a sentence that uses the word (aloud).

Here are the downloadable Dolch word lists:

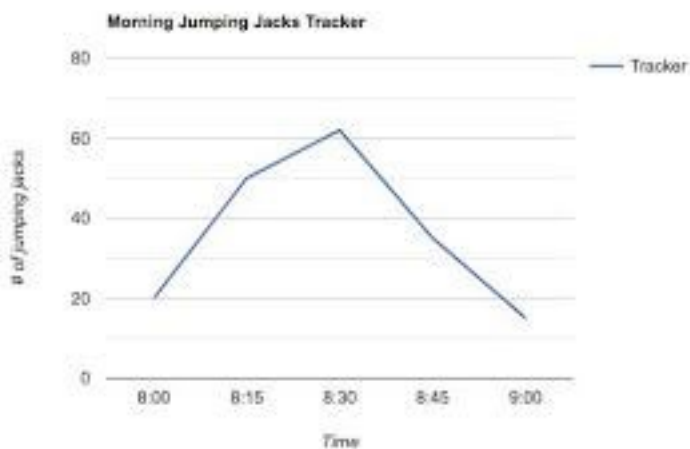
<http://www.dolchword.net/dolch-word-list.html>

NB* Practise your Second Language conversational skills with your family.

Math and Geometry Topics:

1. **Graphs.** Create a line graph with these variables as a guide: time of day and # of jumping jacks. The x-axis is the horizontal line and that is labeled "Time." The y-axis is the vertical line and that is labeled "# of jumping jacks." Follow up by taking your own record of jumping jacks within a time frame of your choice. Then, display your data on a line graph.
- a. For example, these are the notes of one child:

- i. 8am = 20 jumping jacks
- ii. 8:15am = 50 jumping jacks
- iii. 8:30am = 62 jumping jacks
- iv. 8:45am = 35 jumping jacks
- v. 9:00am = 15 jumping jacks.



2. **Review.** Focus on sharpening your multiplication facts. Practice them in this order: 1, 10, 5, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, then 9. Once you have mastered an entire set, as in you can quickly recall the answers accurately, move on to the next set of numbers.



3. **Practise** your own Addition and Subtraction, Multiplication and Division problems.

Geometry:

Classifying Triangles.

This may be a review for some and this may be new for some:

a. Classifying triangles by sides:

- i. Triangles with all sides the same length are called **equilateral triangles**.
- ii. Triangles with 2 sides the same length are called **isosceles triangles**.
- iii. Triangles with sides of 3 different lengths are called **scalene triangles**.

b. Building on, classifying triangles by angles:

- i. Triangles with a 90 degree angle are called **right-angled**.
- ii. Triangles which have all angles under 90 degrees are called **acute-angled**.
- iii. Triangles which have an angle over 90 degrees are called **obtuse-angled**.

c. If you have a protractor, fantastic! These concepts can be explored using just a ruler, too.

Create a three-part matching game in which one set of cards include pictures of the triangle, another set indicates the name of the triangle (bold), and the other set is the description.

Science: Engineering Design Challenges

These challenges might be extra fun as a family activity when everyone can share their work and reflect on what materials and strategies worked best and what ideas failed.

Don't be afraid to build, test, evaluate, and redesign!_

Before we begin, let's think about what it takes to be an engineer.

Engineers dream up creative, practical solutions and work with other smart, inspiring people to invent, design, and build things that matter.

Think creatively. Engineering is an ideal outlet for imagination and creative problem solving—the perfect field for independent thinkers.

Work with great people. Engineering takes teamwork. As an engineer, you'll be surrounded by smart, creative, inspiring people.

Solve problems and design things that matter. Engineers improve peoples' lives by tackling problems, improving current designs, and coming up with solutions no one else has thought of.

Change the world and make a difference. Among many other pursuits, engineers develop systems that save lives, prevent disease, reduce poverty, and protect our planet.

Challenge #1: Catapult:

Can you use found materials to make a catapult that will launch a paper ball three feet?



Challenge #2: Using 20 spaghetti noodles, 1 large marshmallow, 1 yard of string, and 1 yard of (preferably masking) tape, how tall of a free standing structure can you make?

Challenge #3: Testing Different Shapes for Building

Using the following materials, construct two different platforms that can support the weight of a hardcover book (or more than one book). If your platform can support one hardcover book without buckling, shearing, or compressing, see how many books you can add! You might weigh the books with a scale at home first and record how much weight each structure can hold.

Materials:

- 10 sheets of copy paper (okay if has printing on it, such as paper from recycle bin)
- roll masking tape
- 20 drinking straws
- 20 paper clips
- 2-3 pre-weighed hard cover books (give each group similarly weighted books)
- scissors

For more information and **history of various building shapes**, check out this website: https://www.teachengineering.org/activities/view/cub_intro_lesson01_activity1

Challenge #4: Watercraft

Build a boat that can hold 25 pennies for at least ten seconds before sinking. If metal washers are easier to get, use 15 metal washers [one inch in diameter] instead of 25 pennies.

Materials (per person):

- container filled with water (e.g., bucket, sink, plastic tub)
- duct tape
- paper cups (8-ounce or larger)
- 10-inch strip of plastic wrap
- 10 straws
- towels (paper or cloth)
- 25 pennies (or 15 standard, flat steel washers, at least 1 inch in diameter)

Geography:

Try the **Political Geography game** attached.

Print out the resource and cut out the individual cards which show the name of a country or the name of a capital city. There are also continent cards included. Mix and match the country to its capital city. This might be a fun family activity, or a great study to try with an **atlas** nearby. See how many accurate matches you can make, and challenge yourself to learn a few new ones each day.

Once you become proficient in the country-city matching activity, you can make more matching cards: perhaps geographical features of various continents (names of mountain ranges, bodies of water, deserts, forests).



You might even want to study one of the countries or cities, or **draw a map and label the major cities of various continents** (e.g. how many cities can you name and label in Asia?). I look forward to seeing any clever follow up ideas you come up with!

Botany: Types of Roots

Identify the types of roots in plants.

Pull up some weeds and inspect their root systems.



History: Project ideas

1. **A closer look at the 20th Century**

The 20th century (1900-1999) began without planes, televisions, or computers.

These inventions radically changed the lives of people around the world.

The 20th century also witnessed two world wars, the Great Depression, the Holocaust in Europe, the Cold War, revolutionary social equality movements such as the Civil Rights Movement, and the exploration of **space**.

Fashion and recreation changed dramatically (you might be curious why!) and so did homes and modes of **transportation and communication**.

Project: Choose a decade to study and **make your own timeline**. Think about the scale of your timeline AFTER you've collected lots of interesting facts about your decade. See how much space you might need to include your own drawings or captions of various major events, inventions, and influential people. You might tape computer paper together to make your timeline, and space out each year on the timeline by 5 inches. Make sure you have enough material and space to include at least 10 important facts to share about your decade. Consider presenting your timeline on Friday!

Decades of the 20th Century:

- 1900-1909
- 1910-1919
- 1920-1929
- 1930-1939
- 1940-1949
- 1950-1959
- 1960-1969



- 1970-1979
- 1980-1989
- 1990-1999

2. **Focus on the fundamental human need for defense.** Brainstorm as many ways as you can that human beings have protected themselves. This can be in terms of tools, of structures, of ideas, etc. A few that come to mind, as examples, are vaccines, passwords, locks on doors. Consider different countries and areas of the world unlike that with which we are familiar. Consider different time periods that are not our own. This could span all the way back to nomadic and agricultural phases of history, etc.

- a. Create a list of how human beings keep themselves safe and healthy.
- b. Focus on one item on your list and gather facts about it.
- c. If you need inspiration, consider these:
 - i. Helmets
 - ii. Tae kwon do
 - iii. Castles
 - iv. Shields
 - v. International treaties
 - vi. Swords

3. **Consider food in Ancient Sumer.** Investigate this web site.

<https://ancientsumeriansvnp.weebly.com/food.html>

a. What about the food that Ancient Sumerians ate is explained by their climate and terrain of their land?

4. **Make a timeline of Ancient Cultures.**

Take a long strip of paper and flatten it out. Then draw people or vehicles or shelters from three or four ancient cultures on other paper and cut them out. Read about each culture and decide which one came first, second or third. Place them on the timeline. Discuss your decision with someone at home and when you feel sure about your choices glue your drawings on the timeline in chronological order, from most ancient to most recent.

5. **Telling time.**

From midnight to noon, we say "A.M." and from noon to midnight, we say "P.M." A.M. stands for *ante meridiem*, which means **occurring before noon**. P.M. stands for *post meridiem*, which means **occurring after noon**. Throughout the day, ask yourself what time it is. Make sure to indicate whether it's **A.M.** or **P.M.**

Art:

<http://dianascherer.nl/>

This artist makes sculptures with roots! Go check her work out!



