

Janet Reames

“There’s Strength in Numbers” Summary

Johnston Elementary School

“There’s Strength in Numbers” is helping kindergarten students to master and practice critical math skills. “There’s Strength in Numbers” is generating enthusiasm and a love for math by incorporating children’s need for play with developmentally appropriate learning methods. By building a foundation of math skills through teacher and peer interaction in small group small stations, students are having experiences that are relevant and real rather than the traditional methods of memorization and worksheets.

Students are being provided multiple opportunities to learn and practice foundational math skills in a small group setting to strengthen number sense, algebraic thinking and operations, and geometry. Students are being introduced to number sense and base 10 through a variety of interactive and hands-on lessons. They are using manipulatives, drawings, models, and technology to count, recognize quantities of objects, compose and decompose numbers, create sums of 10, and identify and describe simple repeating patterns as well as classifying 2-D and 3-D shapes. Math stations are being used for students to explore and practice math skills they have learned.

Students are working one-on-one as well as in small groups with the teacher to practice several strategies and working in small groups to complete math station activities that reinforce the learning objectives. They are completing hands-on activities and stations that are tied to these objectives. Students are explaining their reasoning and sharing with other students. There has been an increase in engagement, interest, and enthusiasm for learning as children practice, explore, and share their new learning with other students.