

January 2021 Newsletter

Lakefield Elementary School

Lakefield Web page - <http://lakefieldelementary.nbed.nb.ca> and on Facebook at [Lakefield Happenings](#)

All members of the Lakefield Elementary School Community will reach their maximum potential.

Bits N Bites

At the end of December we were able to host our school wide Christmas breakfast for all our students. This took a lot of co-ordination and help from our staff. It all came together so nicely and it is truly amazing to see all those smiling faces and to hear all the appreciative comments from our amazing students.

Fundraising by our Home and School is ongoing and helps to support our school. With cutbacks by our Government and District, the Home and School have stepped up to the plate to help our students, teachers and school. In a recent donation the Home and School were able to purchase various items for our classrooms, special needs items and financial donations to help offset the cost of our school wide activities. We thank the Home and School and our parents for their support.

Our Home and School can do great things with your support!!!



The secret of getting ahead,
is getting started

Parking Problems

As you probably have already noticed our parking lots are overcrowded. We ask that parents not park in either of our two staff parking lots or drive around to the back of the school to drop off children in the morning . The staff is finding it quite difficult to find a place to park their cars for the day. If you could use the student drop off zone or the lower parking lot, where the buses unload, it would be greatly appreciated. Also, at the end of the day, pick up children via the back door or use the lower parking lot where the buses are located.

Important Dates

Jan 4th –Tuesday- Students

Jan 12th - PSSC 7pm
Cancelled

Jan 10th - Hot Lunch ordering for the month of February opens.

Jan 20th - Hot Lunch ordering closes



Family Fun Fit Challenge

We are challenging families to get up and get moving with a goal of becoming more fit. You will be receiving a package from Mr. Kelley near the end of January outlining the challenge and possible activities that you and your family will enjoy during the month of February. Getting ready for spring but still enjoying the winter season. Upon completing the required amount of the activities, return your sheet which will count as a ballot for a chance to win our grand prize, yet to be determined. Children love to imitate their parents, give them a great model to follow.



“Generosity is present at Lakefield”

Our Generosity Tree was fully lit as the Twenty two classes fulfilled their generosity challenge.



Twas the season of giving here at Lakefield once again. Last December we had generosity initiative happening at Lakefield where the School Community pulled together to help those in need and to promote our UNESCO Status.

Boy's and Girl's Club of Saint John:
Toys and Arts & Craft Items, lots of puzzles, and coloring items.

It is amazing to see all the things we can do as a community who have learned to care for other people. These are life-long lessons that will help to carry our students on to becoming the great people they can and will be.

Family Literacy Day

Family literacy day will fall on Wednesday Jan 27th this year and we hope that all families will take the time to read to each other and share their favorite book. Reading is so important to the development of your child and will always ensure that they are successful as they continue their education.

READ, READ, READ!!!!

Guidance

Once again this winter, we will focus on helping the children use their WITS (walk away, ignore, talk it out, or seek help) through the month of January and February. Everyone will have some extra practice with “how to talk it out”, which can be the most difficult of these strategies to use. The students will learn about the talk it out plan (see below) and practice stating their feelings. Finally, at the end of February, we hope to have Ryan Walker, from the KV police force, back at LES to celebrate the student’s hard work and good intentions!

How to “Talk it Out”

- State the problem (Simply & Clearly)
- Share your feelings (Show respect / Be direct)
- Consider possible solutions (Both sides)
- Come to an understanding (Own your part)
- Move on (Let it go)

During our talks, we have also discussed the difference between a conflict and bullying.

Conflict

Is generally a disagreement or difference in opinion between peers who typically have equal power in their relationships. It is usually an inevitable part of group dynamic. A tug on a hat or a push or shove that might happen once would be considered conflict, not bullying.

Bullying

Is a persistent pattern of unwelcome or aggressive behaviour that often involves an imbalance of power and/or the intention to harm or humiliate someone. Bullying is something that is **continuous or happens quite frequent coming from the same person or people.**



SPEAKING OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE...

(from the ASD-S Speech-language Pathology Department)

THE IMPORTANCE OF TEACHING NARRATIVE SKILLS TO CHILDREN

[http://www.google.ca/url?](http://www.google.ca/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=6&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwj_qvvn0dfOAhUCLB4KHeRWBj4QFgg6MAU&url=http%3A%2F%2Fmalaysia.senia.asia%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2014%2F11%2FHAndout-THE-IMPORTANCE-OF-TEACHING-NARRATIVE-SKILLS-TO-CHILDREN.docx&usq=AFQjCNEGCEAxSpUwWlq-4x5UXwP6QWDyyw)

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What are narrative skills?

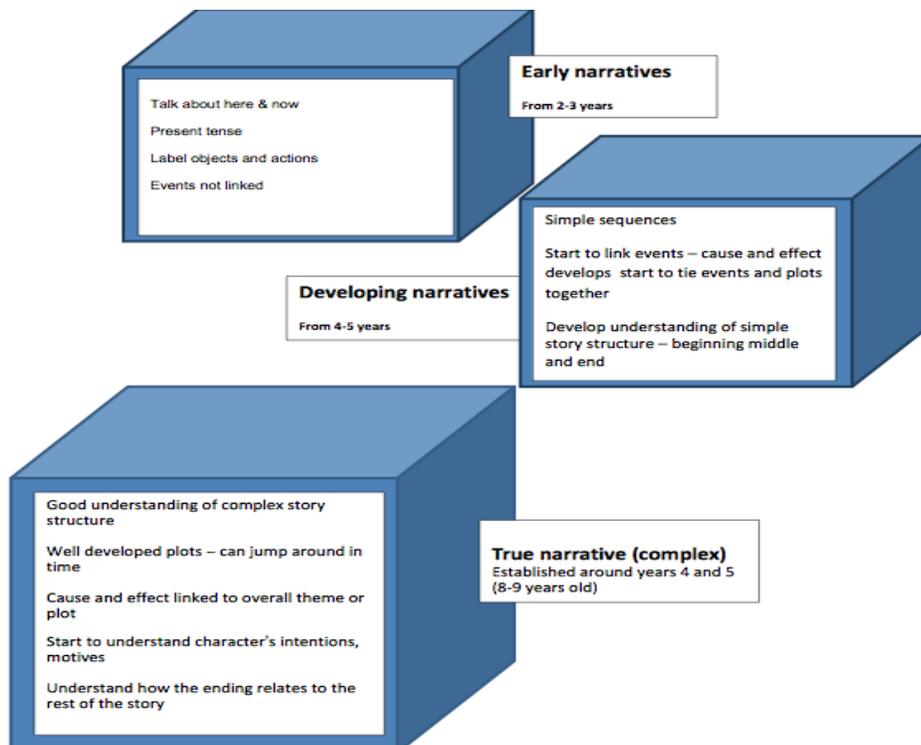
Expressive language skill that encompasses:

- describing** people, events, circumstances, feelings, etc
- sequencing** events that happen in an orderly, coherent manner
- retelling** a story they have just heard or seen
- reporting** an event that has already happened
- inferring** by making sense of things that are not explicitly stated
- predicting** what might happen next given the present circumstances

Why are narrative skills important?

- 😊 **Develop a sense of self**
- 😊 **Necessary for connecting with family and friends**
- 😊 **Bridge to becoming literate**
- 😊 **Bridge between oral and written language**
- 😊 **Basis for reading comprehension**
- 😊 **May flag social pragmatic difficulties**
- 😊 **Help with understanding and analyzing academic texts**

Developmental stages of narratives



How do you facilitate narrative development?

	Infants (0-12 months)	Toddlers (1-3 years)	Preschoolers (4-5 years)	Kindergarten (5-6 years)	Elementary (7-9 years)
Question words	Peek-a-boo games Vocabulary building Narrate your life	Who's there? What is this? What happened? What is xxx doing? Where is xxx? Who is this?	Who is doing xxx? What is xxx doing? Where is xxx? When did xxx happen? What happened next?	Why did that happen? What do you think will happen next? What is xxx feeling? What would happen if ...?	What is the main idea? What could xxx have done differently? How can xxx solve his problem?
Time concepts	Morning, night	Now, later First, then...	First, next, then, last Today, tomorrow, yesterday Before, after	Past, present, future	Seconds, minutes, hours Years, decades, centuries
Sequencing	Familiar play/social scripts	Story scripts Cause and effect (e.g. first, then...)	3-4 step sequences	Story retelling (characters, setting, kick-off, events, conclusion)	Story creation Journaling
Generating narratives	Filling in blanks to familiar scripts (e.g. ready, set, ...)	Filling in blanks to songs and familiar stories Answering simple questions (e.g. and then...)	Retelling simple story sequences (3-4 steps) Retelling past actions/ events	Retelling more complex story sequences Reporting on how to complete a task/project	Creating unique stories Describing/ explaining a project/ activity Analyzing a text/script Reporting on a finding