

<b>Component</b>	<b>Features of the OWL Approach</b>
<p><b>Morning Meeting</b></p> <p>10- minutes</p>	<p><b>Brief orientation to the Centers available for the day</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An item/activity from each center is shown, and is explained or demonstrated to interest children and to encourage exploration.</li> <li>• Teacher uses rich vocabulary.</li> <li>• Explanations and demonstrations predominate, with little or no questioning of children..</li> <li>• Items for demonstration are organized.</li> <li>• Teacher’s explanations appear planned, rather than spontaneous. Focus and emphasis of explanations/demonstrations changes over the week. There is a routine for going to centers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Child Choice</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As the teachers call centers, children choose a center to start.</li> <li>• Children are not assigned to centers, and children are not called individually to make a choice.</li> </ul> <p><b>Turns list</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A turns list is used to keep track of children who did not get to go to their center of choice.</li> <li>• Turns lists are made available for children to consult during center time</li> <li>• The turns list is carried over from one day to the next so children learn that their choices will be honored.</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is responsive to children’s comments and questions, but does not engage in “question-answer” or discussion with the children <u>during</u> the story.</li> <li>• Encourages a short discussion <u>after</u> the reading (with 4’s) or provides a brief comment or two to model reflection or summary of the story (with 3’s).</li> </ul> <p><b>Characteristics of a <u>Reading Two</u>:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-construction of the story</li> <li>• <u>Events-related</u> discussion questions</li> </ul> <p><b>The Teacher:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses language appropriate to a Reading Two.</li> <li>• Predominance of “Do you remember what happens next?” and “We know what happens next, don’t we?” rather than “What do you THINK will happen?” and “Let’s see what happens”</li> <li>• Co-constructs children’s recall of the story.</li> </ul> <p><b>Characteristics of <u>Reading Three</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participatory chiming-in with pauses and prompts</li> <li>• <u>Analysis &amp; Personal Connections</u> discussion questions probe characters’ emotions &amp; feelings and link to their actions</li> <li>• Relate story events to children’s own experiences</li> </ul> <p><b>The Teacher:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports chiming in by emphasizing initial sound or whispering the words to chime in on.</li> <li>• Keeps the story and children’s chiming-in flowing.</li> <li>• Encourages a “reading three” discussion.</li> <li>• Often has time to read a second, theme-related book.</li> </ul> <p><b>Characteristics of <u>Reading Four</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participatory with children assigned one character’s part.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Teacher:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports children by mouthing or whispering the children’s part.</li> <li>• Keeps the story and children’s chiming-in flowing.</li> <li>• May skip Reading 4 and read a different book if children seem to be “done” with the core book.</li> <li>• Often has time to read a second, theme-related book</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Songs, Word Play and Letters/ Building Blocks Whole Group</b></p> <p>20 minutes</p>	<p><b>Whole group circle time that helps children develop phonological awareness, alphabet letter knowledge, vocabulary, and mathematical skills and concepts in a playful way.</b></p> <p><b>The Teacher:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has materials needed close at hand</li> <li>• Has the sequence of activities clearly in mind, but is able to modify to maintain children’s engagement</li> <li>• Conveys enjoyment of the activities.</li> <li>• Paces the activities appropriately for the developmental levels/needs of the children and purposes of the activity.</li> <li>• Uses “wrap around” language that provides rich vocabulary and literacy concept information to children.</li> </ul> <p><b>For the OWL SWPL activities, the teacher:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses the OWL songs, poems, and literacy skills tasks (primarily).</li> <li>• Uses instructional strategies suggested in the <i>Teachers Guides</i> Recites the poems and sings the songs with the children at their own pace, rather than playing the CD. The CD should be used by the teacher for learning the songs. For variation, other, better recordings of some of the songs can be played such as Raffi CDs.</li> </ul> <p><b>For the Building Blocks Whole Group activities, the teacher:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses classroom management strategies that enhance the quality of the activity and children’s mathematical learning. Uses mathematical language, including, as appropriate to the activity, a discussion of mathematical ideas or strategies.</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Let's Find Out About It/ Let's Talk About It</b></p> <p>20 minutes</p>	<p><b>LFOAI</b>  <b>Builds children's background knowledge through demonstrations, first-hand exposure to objects and processes, and exposure to information from non-fiction texts. Often based upon something of interest in a Story Time book</b></p> <p><b>Instructional strategy = Explanations and Demonstrations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● "Expository mode" predominates; and questions are used, as appropriate.</li> <li>● Teacher gives accurate information in a way that is accessible to preschoolers.</li> <li>● Clear, well organized, sequenced to aid understanding</li> <li>● Teacher links to the appropriate core story book.</li> <li>● Book is a "jumping off point" rather than the main focus of the LFOAI.</li> <li>● Teacher's language is rich in key vocabulary.</li> <li>● Includes markers, such as "first, second, next, last".</li> <li>● Expository texts are used, as much as possible, as recommended in the <i>Teachers Guide</i>, and supplemented with additional expository texts from the library.</li> <li>● Use of expository texts is appropriate to the situation and book (i.e. may use to look up information rather than read the book straight through).</li> </ul> <p><b>LTAI</b>  <b>Discussion of topics of social and emotional importance to children</b></p>

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<p><b>OWL Small Groups</b></p> <p>20 - 25 minutes</p>	<p><b>Three adult-guided activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One high support, one medium, one low</li> <li>• Children rotate through over 3 days. Each child does one activity each day.</li> </ul> <p><b>Activities include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Science, writing, language, book browsing, alphabet puzzles, print manipulatives, Small group read alouds (replacing most OWL math activities listed in <i>Teachers Guide</i>)</li> </ul> <p><b>The teaching team is clearly prepared for Small Groups.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Materials are ready on the tables.</li> <li>• Adults coordinate well with each other.</li> <li>• High Support Activity – teacher led</li> <li>• Medium Support Activity– paraprofessional led</li> <li>• Low Support Activity –led by an additional adult in the classroom or monitored by paraprofessional or teacher</li> </ul> <p><b>Each adult:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses a moderate voice level</li> <li>• Balances time spent on explanations/demonstrations and time devoted to guided discovery</li> <li>• Uses rich language, including key vocabulary</li> <li>• Monitors individuals and interacts individually with each child, providing on-the-spot adaptations for those who struggle and those who need more challenge</li> </ul> <p><b>The teacher:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implements all OWL high-instructional small groups activities with 4-year-olds</li> <li>• Plans effective adaptations for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 3's</li> <li>○ ELL</li> <li>○ Children with special needs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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<b>Targeted Transitions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transition activities promote literacy skills</li> <li>• Reading names, letter naming, letter sounds, rhyming and vocabulary</li> <li>•</li> </ul> <p><b>The Teacher:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses OWL’s language and literacy-related dismissal devices each day.</li> <li>• Follows recommendations in the <i>Teacher’s Guide</i>.</li> <li>• Adapts skill levels to individual children.</li> </ul>
<b>Outdoor Play and Mealtimes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OWL has a “Conversations with Children” section in each week of the <i>Teacher’s Guide</i></li> <li>• Weekly Planner suggests outdoor time and mealtime conversation topics teachers and paraprofessionals can use to connect the curriculum to children’s daily lives</li> </ul>