DAILY PLANNER: Weeks 17 and 18



Opposites

Phonics focus: x
Day: Monday
Term: 2

Big Book story: *Friends*
Poster: Opposites

1. Arrival time
Welcome each learner as they arrive at school. Chat to them about their weekend.

2. Health check
As learners arrive at school evaluate their overall health and appearance. Look out for any signs that something is wrong such as anxiety, forgetfulness, a change in usual behaviour patterns, etc. and try to find out the cause of this.

3. Morning circle
Read the theme message (sentence strip): Today we are learning about opposites. Talk about their weekend, the weather and any administration issues.

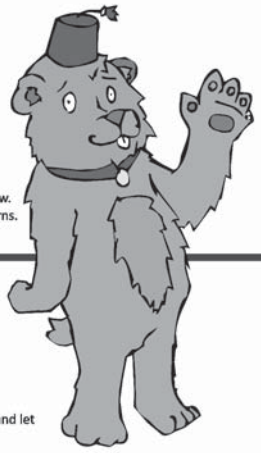
Draw attention to the theme table. Ask: What can you see on the table? Can you guess what we are learning about this week? Play "I spy" with the items or pictures on the table, e.g. I spy something that is the opposite of hard (a rock). Learners guess what it is (something soft – a feather).

4. Work time
Explain the activities at the various work stations. If necessary, demonstrate how to complete an activity. Talk about the number of learners permitted at each station and learning centre.

Throw a bean bag to a learner and call out a word. The learner catches the bean bag, gives the opposite, then throws the bean bag back to you.

Work time: work stations

Life Orientation/Creative table: Learners draw day and night pictures.
Technology/Creative table: Learners tear long and short strips from various coloured pieces of paper and create a collage.
Creative table 1: Learners make mud and shaving cream designs (dirty-clean, dark-light).
Creative table 2: Learners do blow painting. They dribble paint onto paper and blow designs using a straw. Experiment to see if learners can create big and small patterns.



5. Small group time
Introduce the letter 'x'. Hold up the letter 'x' flashcard in the Learner Resource Book. Discuss its sound.

Tape a large 'x' on the carpet and get learners to walk the correct letter formation. Give each learner a large 'x' on paper. They can form the letter with counters.

Give learners the letter 'x' template in the Teachers' Guide and let them decorate the lower case and capital letters.

Learners can now complete the letter 'x' worksheet (Worksheet 1).

6. Tidy up time
Remind learners that once the work is done it is time to clean up. Sing this new song to the tune of *Twinkle twinkle little star*:

It is time to clean up now
Clean up, clean up, we know how
We can clean up, you will see
Just how clean our room can be
It is time to clean up now
Clean up, clean up, we know how

7. Hand washing
Sing this song to the tune *Hi-ho, hi-ho, it's off to work we go*:
Hi-ho, hi-ho
To toilet off we go!
We'll use the loo
Wash our hands too
Hi-ho, hi-ho, hi-ho!

8. Snack time
As learners sit down to eat their lunch encourage them to first say a word of thanks for the food they are about to eat.
Ask learners to describe the food they are eating using opposites, e.g. *My bread is soft but my apple is hard. / My grapes are sweet but my naartjie is sour.*

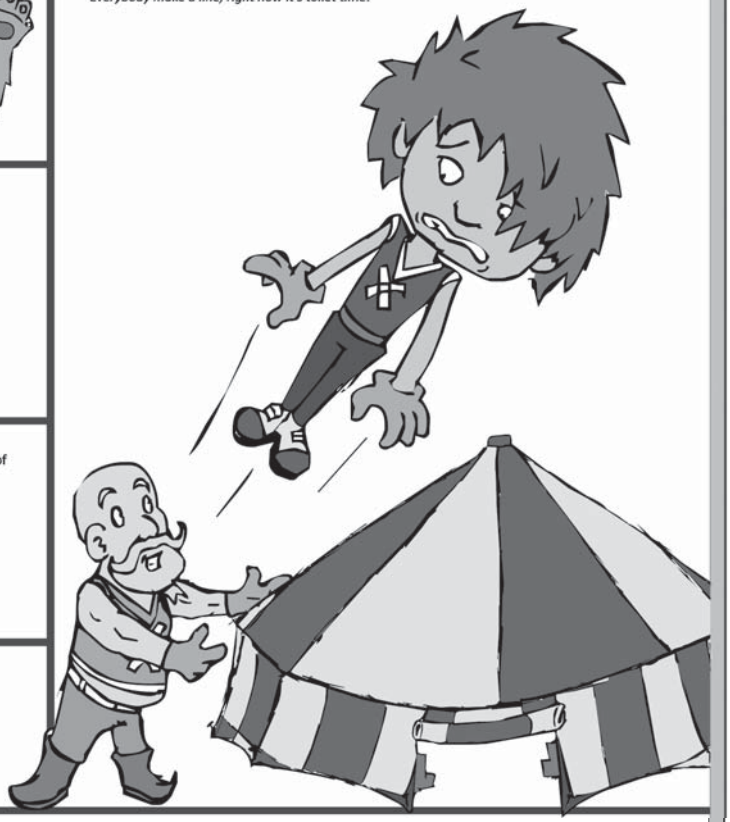
9. Music and movement ring
Begin the lesson by singing a favourite movement song.

Prepare 16 craft sticks. On eight of them write opposites like *up, down, in, out, forwards, backwards, fast, slowly*. Put these sticks in a cup. On the other eight sticks, write action words like *crawl, walk, hop, skip, run, gallop, etc.* Put these sticks in another cup.

Make a big circle or square on the floor using tape or string. Call a learner to choose a stick from each cup. Read the instructions for all the learners to do, e.g. if the learner picked out *crawl* and *backwards*, then all the learners try that. If *in* and *walk* were selected then all the learners would walk in the circle, etc.

10. Outdoor play
Reinforce opposites by making an obstacle course where learners will need to move up or down, in or out, over or under, above or below, to the bottom or the top, etc.

11. Hand washing and toilet time
After outdoor play learners line up to go to the bathroom to clean up before storytime. They can sing this song to the tune of *London Bridge*:
Everybody make a line, make a line, make a line
Everybody make a line, right now it's toilet time!



12. Story time
Open the Big Book to the story called *Friends*. Look through the story and discuss the pictures. Ask learners to say how they would feel in each situation. Read the story to the class. Discuss the meaning of friendship: how to be a good friend and how to keep a friend. After reading, have the learners dictate what they think a good friend is. Let pairs of friends talk about their similarities and differences, e.g. the things that they both like and the things that one likes that the other doesn't. Learners need to appreciate that although they have differences they can still get along.

Theme table
Use the following ideas to create a theme table to stimulate discussion and discovery. Use Poster 9 as a backdrop for the theme table. Place a tablecloth on the table.

Place the labels appropriate for this theme on the table. Add items that relate to the theme of opposites, for example:
- Collect a variety of items with their opposite, e.g. feather and rock, mirror and sandpaper, long and short rulers, big and small ball/book, long paper towel inner and short toilet roll inner, bottles of different sizes, etc.
- Make cards with opposites that can be acted out, e.g. stand-sit, up-down, left-right, fast-slow, old-young, hot-cold, happy-sad, etc. Make two sets of cards so they can be used to play a matching game.

Fantasy corner
Create a space in the fantasy corner where learners can explore the theme of creativity and opposites. Prepare a variety of materials which learners can use to make their own 'sculptures'. They can use toilet rolls, cardboard boxes, glue and tape to create fantasy characters, buildings, transport, etc. The space can basically be transformed into a workshop. Have a space allocated for work-in-progress, so learners can return to what they were busy doing the next day. It may be a good idea to have a timer in this area, so learners don't spend all their time here and neglect other areas.