



Classroom Spotlight

Kindergarten teacher shares her students' enthusiasm!

"I have been using Letters alive in my kindergarten class for almost a year now and my students and I absolutely LOVE it!"

Jen Sattazahn, a kindergarten teacher in the Lebanon School District, uses the Letters alive curriculum kit and Student Journals to excite and engage her students.



Jen Sattazahn
Kindergarten Teacher
Northwest Elementary, Lebanon SD



"I have been using Letters alive in my kindergarten class for almost a year now and my students and I absolutely LOVE it! After seeing videos of Mr. Greg using Letters alive with his students, my principal agreed to purchase our first Alive Studios' kit. Unfortunately COVID hit so we only started to use it around Dec. of 2020.

There are so many awesome components to this program that my students are constantly asking to "go to the zoo." Once we have finished learning a letter in our core reading program, we then go to the zoo. Students love making predictions of what animal we might meet at the zoo that begins with the same letter sound we have been learning. Of course, the student's excitement and reactions to the animals are priceless! When we met Gerdy Giraffe, we then visited the live zoo cameras at the San Diego Zoo to see some real life giraffes.

I love that this program is cross-curricular. I also love that I can pull books from our independent reading program (American Reading Company) about some of the animals and habitats we have been learning about for my students to read during their independent reading time.

Letters alive is also great to use during our writing time and centers. Students love using the journals and mobile app during centers (see pics). My students match picture cards to the AR animal and take pictures with their ipads. We are also a 1:1 district so each student has their own ipad that they can take home and take pictures of objects around their house too that have the same beginning sound as the animal(s) we met in class. I can also envision my students taking pictures of the animals around their house later in the year and using it as a creative writing activity (The Adventures of Gerdy Giraffe at my kitchen table...) So many fun ways to use the journal app for all grades!!

In October, I presented this program to our admin, tech department, and other kindergarten teachers and it was a big hit! With the use of ESSER Fund, we are hoping to purchase more kits. After last night's Zoom presentation, I hope more educators start to use this amazing program in their classrooms to promote a love for reading and learning! Thank you for this AMAZING program!"

To learn more about Letters alive, visit

www.AliveStudiosCo.com