

Emerson Elementary School

A Bilingual School Organization (B.I.S.O.)

Emerson is ECTACular!!! Inspired Choice Instruction



Home of the Wise Owls

Emerson Elementary School Background

- Constructed in 1955, Emerson Elementary School presently serves the instructional needs of a predominantly Hispanic community.
- Dual Language Program is implemented school-wide.
- Staff certification enables advanced language and cultural competence.
- Staff embraces community's language and cultural diversity.
- Teachers collaborate on key curricular issues during biweekly common planning time.
- Staff collaboration on school-wide and grade level events exemplifies cohesiveness of personnel.
- Administrative visionary management style encompasses needs of community, students, and staff.
- Minimal staff turn-over rate reflects professional fulfillment.

Inspired Choice Instruction:

Introduction

- Tapping into professional strengths and experiences to maximize instructional student growth.
- Encouraging staff to integrate individualized innovative instructional programs that enrich district mandated Common Core Curriculum.
- Professional freedom to explore innovative research based teaching styles to intensify student learning.
- Providing resources to staff promoting individualized teacher programs.
- Allowing teacher choice in grade level and subject area teaching preferences to maximize professional expertise.
- Parents choose to promote school-wide and individual programs.

Inspired Choice Instruction: School-wide Programs

Bilingual School Organization (B.I.S.O.):

OVERVIEW

- The goal of B.I.S.O. is to develop high levels of proficiency in both their first and second languages (Spanish and English).
- Multi language proficiency leads to higher academic performance levels in both languages.
- Students demonstrate positive cross-cultural attitudes and behaviors.
- Students' self esteem is well established with peer acceptance.
- Parents choose to participate in a B.I.S.O. Curriculum.

Inspired Choice Instruction: School-wide Programs

Bilingual School Organization (B.I.S.O.): Operational Aspects at Emerson Elem.

- Students in all grades receive Math instruction in a dual language setting for one hour.
- Language Arts, Writing and Reading are taught daily in Spanish for one hour.
- Science or Social Studies instruction is taught in a dual language setting.
- Language Arts Writing and Reading instruction are taught for a two hour block in English.
- Special Areas are taught in English

Inspired Choice Instruction: School-wide Programs

**Bilingual School Organization (B.I.S.O.):
Individualized Aspects Offered at Emerson Elementary**

Subject-matter instruction must be:

- Adjusted to the student's instructional level incorporating the needs of SPED, Gifted, and ELL.
- Challenging and rigorous for all students.
- Relevant in both languages.

Inspired Choice Instruction: School-wide Programs

Bilingual School Organization (B.I.S.O.): Community Outreach at Emerson Elementary

- Citizenship classes are offered during the school day to ease the transition of parents and community members into the mainstream of the United States.
- English classes are offered after school hours for monolingual Spanish speaking parents and community members.
- Tutorial and cultural programs offered to enhance community integration.

Inspired Choice Instruction: Grade Level Specific

- **Pre Kindergarten Strawberry Garden Project**

Students create and sustain a strawberry garden where active learning connects students with their environment and food system.

This encourages hands-on experiences, healthy eating, and curiosity about the natural world.

Funding: Parents contributions, teacher's resourcefulness, and corporate donations.

Inspired Choice Instruction: Grade Level Specific

SPED Pizza Garden Project

- Ensuring understanding of the natural environment using a hands-on approach, students plant basil, oregano, peppers and tomatoes from seeds or seedlings. Daily observations and maintenance of crops are solely the responsibility of students.
- Final Project: Students enjoy the fruit of their labor by eating pizzas on whole wheat English muffins.
- Funding: Parent contributions and teacher's resourcefulness



Inspired Choice Instruction:

Grade Level Specific Fourth Grade Writing Marathon

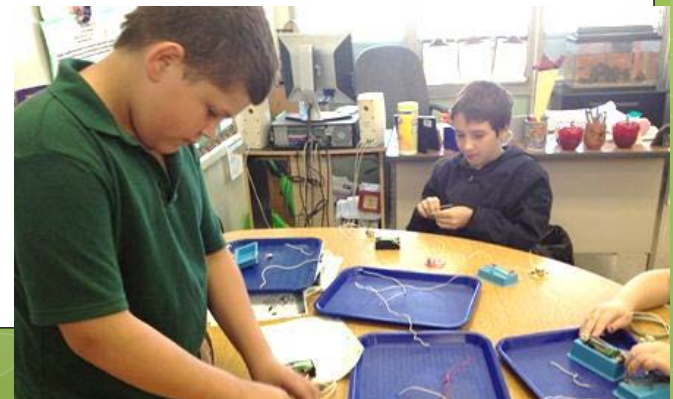
- Three exciting and rigorous days of intense writing activities to further enhance the skills taught throughout the school year. The marathon, which takes place two weeks before the FCAT Writing Assessment, provides the 4th grade students the opportunity to polish their writing, collaborate with teachers and students, and practice the necessary skills needed to be successful writers.
 - PowerPoint presentation on
 - Expository & Narrative Writing
 - Enhancement Activities
 - “Show, Don’t Tell” (Description)
 - Onomatopoeia (Figurative Language)
 - “Superstar” Punctuation Marks
 - Quotation Marks & Dialogue
 - Strong Verb (Descriptive words)
 - Expository Web & Four Square
 - Story Elements (Planning)
- Anchor Papers
 - Scoring Rubric
 - Identifying strengths/weaknesses
- Mock Writing
 - Timed narrative & expository assessment
 - Sharing/Editing/ Critiquing
- Test Taking Tips



Inspired Choice Instruction: Teacher Specific

5th Grade Object Based Science Learning:

- A multisensory approach to learning that involves a process of exploring the natural or material world that leads to asking questions and making discoveries in the search for new understandings.
- A hands-on way to refine skills of observation and perception; enhance creative thinking and problem solving ability; and to build on and apply different ways of communicating.
- As students are encouraged to share what they know, sense, feel, about an object the information that comes to the surface further enhances how others see that object.
- Inquiry learning and active learner involvement can lead to important outcomes in the classroom. Students who actively make observations, collect, analyze, and synthesize information, and draw conclusions are developing useful problem-solving skills.





Inspired Choice Instruction: Grade Level Specific

Green Schools Initiative

- Students in the gifted program understand the value of taking care of our planet through monthly activities which include:
 - designing pledge posters to involve school,
 - displaying recyclable art work at Miami Dade County Fair and Expo,
 - creating brochures on green careers,
 - researching water conservation efforts, herb & vegetable gardens,
 - encouraging the "lights-off" campaign.
- Instructional Goal: Insight on the impact of students' small actions on global environment
- Recognized at Annual Eco-Summit Awards Banquet
- Funding: Teacher made resources, parent involvement, and district energy saving refund checks.

Inspired Choice Instruction: Teacher Specific

Physical Education Health and Fitness Projects

- Student are encouraged to make fundamental changes in their heart, health, and lifestyles. Our school is impacting the lives of our youth by making a meaningful shift toward a healthy diet and exercise habits.
- Informational newsletters JAM (Just a Minute) School Program offered by Health-E-Tips, Inc. provides a one-minute physical activity routine designed to help gets kids moving inside the classroom, during assemblies or throughout the school day.
- Presentations from experts are scheduled (i.e. JDRF, American Heart Association) to educate students on nutrition, fitness and health advice.

Inspired Choice Instruction: Teacher Specific for Community



Annual Toy Drive

- Special Education teacher encouraged parents and students to support the Miami-Dade County Firefighters "Toys for Kids" program in their efforts to provide needy families with toys during the holiday season.
- In an effort to broaden our students' awareness of community responsibilities, students donated board games to "Toys for Kids".
- Students experienced first-hand the meaning of giving by personally handing their contributions to Santa who arrived via fire truck. The time and energy invested generated benefits of immeasurable value to both our students and those of the community.
- Instructional Goal: Developing caring citizens of the future

Emerson Elementary School

Inspired Choice Instruction

- Questions??
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Emerson Elementary School Inspired Choice Instruction

“Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson