

# Small Groups to Mealtimes: “Let’s Talk About It”

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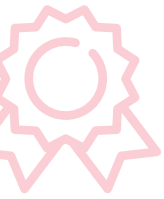
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MISSISSIPPI  
DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION

Office of Early Childhood





1

**ALL** Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All Assessed Areas



2

**EVERY** Student Graduates from High School and is Ready for College and Career



3

**EVERY** Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program

**EVERY** School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders

4



**EVERY** Community Effectively Uses a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes

5



**EVERY** School and District is Rated “C” or Higher

6



## VISION

To create a world-class educational system that gives students the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and the workforce, and to flourish as parents and citizens



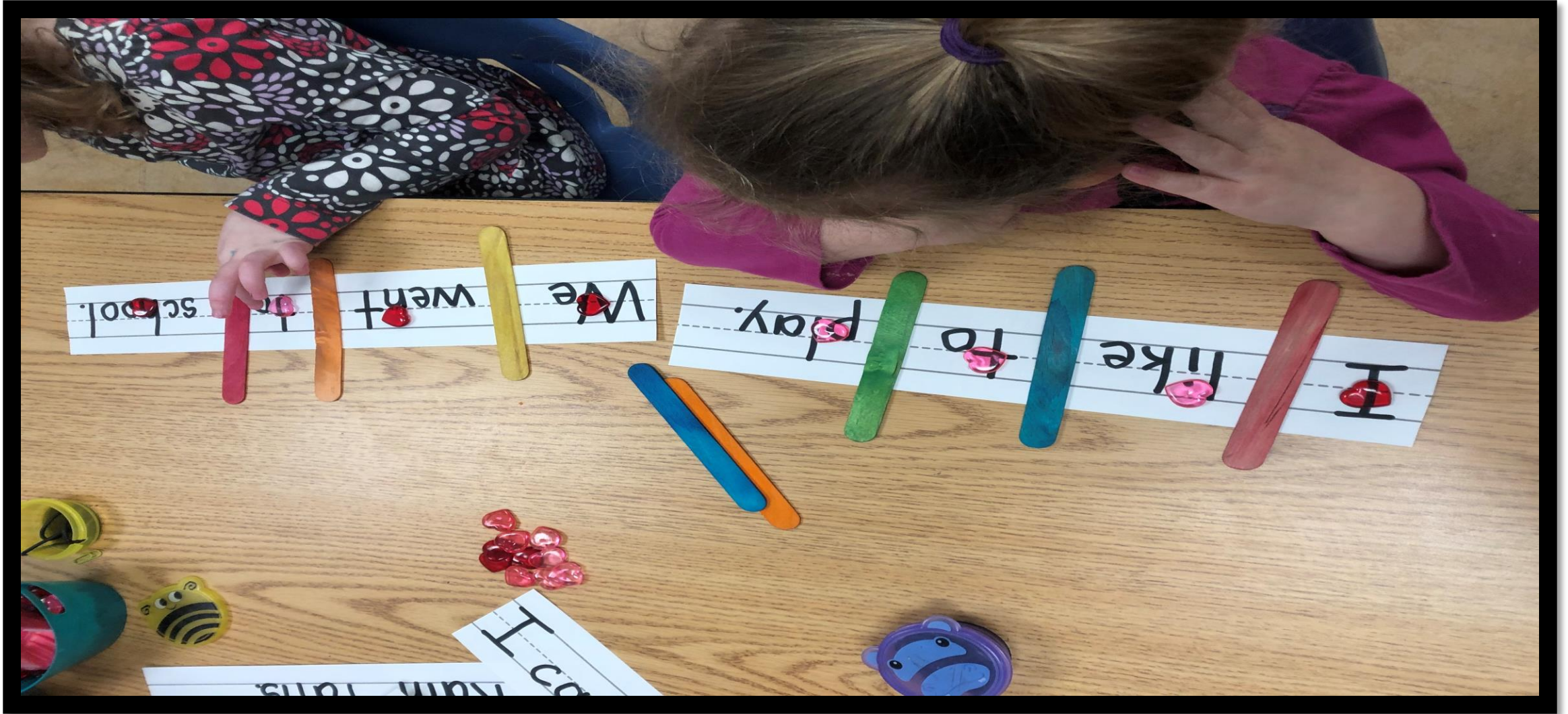
## MISSION

To provide leadership through the development of policy and accountability systems so that all students are prepared to compete in the global community

- How would you describe...
  - Small Groups
  - Storytime
  - Mealtimes
- How do they look in your classroom?
- How are they related ?

# Small Groups

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# Small Groups –How Do I Get Started?

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- Be prepared
- Keep an eye on the rest of the class
- Practice co-teacher communication
- 10-15 minutes

# Approaches to Small Groups

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- Welcome
- Introduction of new materials
- Review social rules



# Benefits of Small Groups

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- Small groups with 2-4 children can have enormous benefits.
  - Differentiated learning
  - Open-ended conversations
  - Child-led conversations







- Reading and sharing stories can help children:
  - Develop early literacy skills
  - Learn to value books and stories
  - Spark imagination and curiosity
  - Learn the difference between real and make believe
  - Understand new or frightening events

# Storytime-How Do I Get Started ? 11



- Be prepared
- Read Aloud 1: Orientation
- Read Aloud 2: Deeper Vocabulary
- Read Aloud 3: Reconstruction

# Storytime-How Do I Get Started ? 12



- Read Aloud 4:Act it Out
- Thinking and Feedback
- Let's Find Out About It (LFOAI)
- Storytelling, Story Acting



## Enjoyable mealtimes help young children:

- Learn healthy eating habits
- Develop positive attitudes toward food



# Mealtime - Lets Dig In!

14

- Make mealtimes pleasant
- Help Children learn self-help skills
- Remember eating is a social time
- Plan fun food activities to encourage new foods





# Mealtime: Tips to make it easier

15

- Encourage children to help
- Provide child sized furniture and utensils
- Try using different colored utensils
- Use finger foods when possible
- Make it appealing





## Breakout rooms



# Questions ?

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