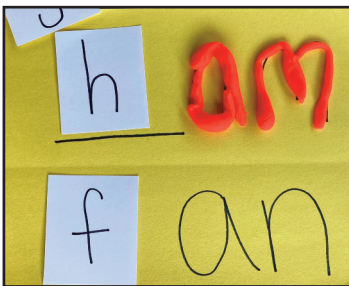
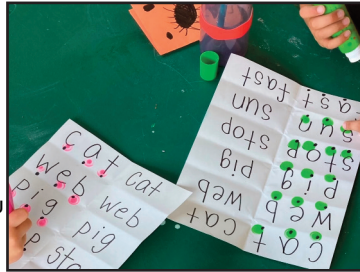


## MULTISENSORY LEARNING ON MY ORTON-GILLINGHAM JOURNEY

(submitted by Mary Baumgarten, OG Tutor)

As we recently welcomed a new year, I have had the chance to reflect on events that have impacted my life in meaningful ways. The truth is that you never know how one event will influence your life. One such event in my life was when I walked into a volunteer orientation at Literacy Nassau a few summers ago. I was looking for a way to volunteer in my community. I read about Literacy Nassau's work with reading. As a teacher, it seemed like a perfect fit. Little did I know, attending that orientation would launch my Orton-Gillingham journey; a journey that I am happy to still be on today. It is a journey that has increased my understanding of dyslexia as well as the value of multisensory instruction.



Multisensory instruction allows children to learn by utilizing more than one sense at a time. It therefore incorporates not just visual and auditory senses, but kinesthetic/tactile senses as well. Learning about and utilizing multisensory strategies has perhaps been one of the most beneficial parts of my OG journey, and so I would like to share some of my favorites.

Let's start with finger tapping and SOS. Finger tapping lets children tap out each phoneme or sound with their fingers. It can be used for blending sounds in reading and segmenting in spelling. SOS (Simultaneous Oral Spelling) involves saying, tapping, spelling, and writing words while naming each letter. It lets children see and hear the words as they write them. These strategies have been helpful in both my in-person lessons and my virtual lessons. My on-line students are able to use these strategies as they spell words in real time by writing directly on their screens, which they love to do!



Some of my other favorite multisensory activities include writing in sand, forming letters out of playdough or clay, and spelling words with Legos. The kinesthetic practice involved in these are great for building connections in the brain. They are hands-on and very engaging. I also love using dot paint to read words, incorporating word crafts, and using water colors to reveal and read words. Crafts and water colors work great not only for decodable words, but sight words too. Trace, Copy, Cover is another favorite for sight words.

Helping my students learn is important to me, and so I love that I am able to use multisensory strategies to help them become stronger, more confident readers. The multisensory strategies that I have learned and continue to learn on my OG journey with Literacy Nassau have made me a better teacher!



## SWEET ON SPELLING



February's tutoring center activity will be "Sweet on Spelling!" At the end of each session, your student will be able to spell words with their tutors on a candy-box themed spelling board with magnetic letters shaped like Valentine's chocolates. We can't wait to see all of our students show off their sweet spelling skills!

Literacy Nassau's OG Summer Intensive Program

## VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

Learn all about our OG Summer Intensive program from the comfort of your home.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH 7-8PM  
TUESDAY, MARCH 7TH 6-7PM  
THURSDAY, MARCH 23RD 7-8PM  
TUESDAY, APRIL 4TH 7-8PM

Contact Kate at [kquijano@literacynassau.org](mailto:kquijano@literacynassau.org) to sign up

Mark Your Calendars

## UPCOMING EVENTS

February 11 - Training for OG Certified cohort  
February 12 - Training for OG Associate cohort  
February 18, 20 and 25 - Office Closed  
February 21-24 - Daytime Hours Only

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

FEBRUARY 14, 2023

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: JORDAN

(submitted by Ruby, OG Trainee)

It has been an absolute pleasure working with Jordan this year! I feel so lucky to work with such a sweet, funny, and energetic student. During our sessions she loves to tell jokes, draw pictures, play "Spot It!", and do anything that gets us moving! Most recently during our sessions, Jordan has been working on Magic E. She always brings 100% effort and a creative mind to everything we do. Get to know more about Jordan below!

**Q: What do you want to be when you grow up?**

A: A gymnast because I'm really flexible.

**Q: If you could have any super power, what would it be and why?**

A: Learning because I like to learn. Learning is a power!

**Q: What do you want to invent?**

A: A clean-it robot. She would clean.

**Q: If you were a teacher, what would you teach?**

A: Probably, math.

**Q: Can you tell me a joke?**

A: What is red and yellow?... A Happy Meal!

**Q: What is one gift that you want for your birthday?**

A: I want a treehouse and a trampoline.

**Q: What is your favorite thing that we do at OG tutoring?**

A: I like to play games with Ruby.

**Q: What is your favorite food to eat?**

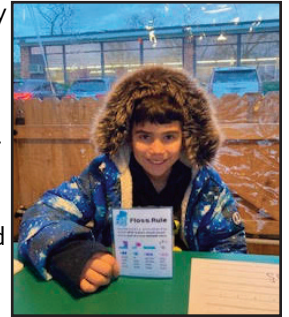
A: I like to eat spaghetti.



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: MASSIMO

(submitted by Donna, OG Trainee)

I have been working with Massimo since the middle of October and I am so happy to have him as my practicum student this year! Massimo is currently in the fourth grade. He is a very sweet and respectful young boy who always puts forth his best effort during our sessions. Massimo enjoys when we incorporate games into our lessons. He has a good sense of humor and he loves gummy candy! I recently learned that he is a fan of April Fool's Day so there may be a prank in store for me this year! I asked Massimo a few questions to get to know him better and I hope that you enjoy getting to know him as much as I have this year!



**Q: What is your favorite holiday?**

A: Can I pick two? I like Halloween for the candy and Christmas for the presents!

**Q: What was your favorite Christmas present that you received this year?**

A: A robot called Miko. He reads to me!

**Q: If you could plan a day of fun, what would your perfect day look like?**

A: I would go to the Nickelodeon Action Park and go to a Hibachi restaurant for dinner.

**Q: What do you like most about school?**

A: Math (That was my favorite subject too!)

**Q: What do you like least about school?**

A: Nothing. I like school!

**Q: Do you have any pets?**

A: I have two dogs named Betsy and Fleet. (I've met them and they are really cute!)

**Q: What do you want to be when you grow up?**

A: An FBI agent.

**Q: What is your favorite food?** A: Sesame Chicken (Yum!)

**Q: I know you love candy but what is your favorite candy?**

A: Watermelon sour patch kids (That's my favorite too!)

