

Exploring Lively Letters



Grade 1



המדרשה ע"ש שניאור זלמן שכטר
SOLOMON SCHECHTER

ACADÉMIE • ACADEMY

Grade 1 Storyland Write Up

Exploring Lively Letters

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"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

— *Dr. Seuss*

The Grade One classes have been actively engaged in learning to read through the Lively Letters Program, an effective phonics-based method designed to help children master letter sounds. In this program, each letter or sound is paired with a unique, memorable story that aids students in recalling the corresponding sound more easily.

In the fall, we first reviewed the alphabet and the letter sounds that the students were already familiar with. We then introduced them to new “special” sounds—those sounds they had not encountered before. This provided an opportunity for the students to expand their understanding of phonics and begin recognizing and using a wider range of sounds.

To make this learning more personalized and creative, we assigned each student two specific sounds and encouraged them to create their own stories to explain why each sound behaves the way it does. The students discussed their ideas with their peers and teachers, then drafted their stories using inventive spelling, which allowed them to explore their phonetic knowledge in a fun and creative way. Additionally, each student was given the opportunity to illustrate their sound, bringing their stories to life visually and further reinforcing their learning through art. After refining their ideas, they published their final versions for our *Storyland* exhibit that showcases their hard work.

Our students take great pride in demonstrating just how much progress they have made in their reading and writing abilities. This project not only highlights their academic achievements but also fosters a sense of ownership over their learning journey. *Storyland* is a wonderful way for them to celebrate their growth and the hard work they have put into becoming confident readers and writers.