

<u>Chess Academy</u> January Update

Happy New Years! We will be busy in chess this month. The Junior Kindergarteners will be continuing their chess journey and then our 4's program will be starting their chess journey!

In our Junior Kindergarten program, they will be starting book 3 - which is about good sportsmanship and the point system in chess. The first few chapters focus on a character named King Richard who quickly finds out he is not the best chess player and bans chess. He slowly starts to realize he has no one to play chess with and starts battling feelings of wanting to be the best but also having friends to play with.

Our 4's will be beginning their journey by meeting each of the friends in Chesslandia - starting with King Chomper and King Shaky.

Skills Learned & Practiced:

- Following Directions
- Acting and Role-Playing
- Motor Skills
- Vocabulary
- Predicting
- Emotional Intelligence
- Social Acumen
- Collaboration
- Courage
- Grit
- Diverse Friendships
- Complex Emotions & Actions

<u>Chess Exercises</u> Our Junior Kindergarten program will be focusing on various minigames, strategies, rules of gameplay, and features of the board.

As our 4's are introduced to each character in chess, we play a few games just focusing on their movements. For King Chomper, we will practice moving him 1 step around the board as he picks up his favorite food!

Questions? Please don't hesitate to email me! Leah Lorenz llorenz@kiddieacademystl.com KIDDIE ACADEMY. EDUCATIONAL CHILD CARE