

New Bananagrams! – February 2, 2017

A few weeks ago the children explored a writing provocation that introduced Bananagram tiles as spelling tools (since we're not quite ready to play the game traditionally). Wanting to share a way in which young children interact with written language, we posted a photo of Elena using the tiles to spell out her name on our school Instagram account. Apparently, Bananagrams HQ saw our post & promptly sent us a generous package with two "bunches" of their "Green Bananagrams" for younger users; how kind! Today we set out both kinds of tiles accompanied by small photos of the children with their names & flat glass gems. Kalei wondered: 1) How will the differences in the tiles –lowercase, colors, & conjoined letter pairs- affect the children's interpretation of the provocation, 2) Will their pictures encourage spelling because of familiarity, 3) Could the gems support numeracy through one-to-one correspondence?



Lila writes "Oli Lila" (Oli is her lovey).

Above row, left to right:
Eden collects 'e' tiles, perhaps because of its presence in her name. Colin, Kalei, & peers cooperate to spell his name.
Elena excitedly shows off her picture.
Felix quickly spells out his name which decidedly covers the typed out name on the photo.



Sol creates "a letter maze."



Left: Hank's first action is to hold up two conjoined letter pairs "oo" & "un;" "Is this a word?" he asks. This created an interesting question for the group to consider: What constitutes a word? Right: Wren collects "all the Os" while working intermittently on her name.

