



Knowledge Building Circle - Kindergarten Examples

Video: Kindergarten's first KBC of the year

The students found a praying mantis on the schoolyard

This is a 10 min video shortened to provide an example: [prayingmantisKBC.mov](#)

Example: Kindergarten KBC in response to “What do you know about trees?”

Instructions:

Children are in a circle and asked to be quiet and respectful. One child starts with a “talking stone” or another item and answers the question “What do you know about trees?” When the speaker is finished answering the question, the other students put their hand into the circle (not up) indicating that they would like to share. The speaker chooses the next child and gives them the “talking stone” and this continues until they are finished sharing. The teacher is recording the discussion. Sometimes the teacher needs to repeat the question, paraphrase or ask another question to help everyone understand a point. The teacher does not correct the student when they are wrong or misguided. The goal is that through further discussion, research, experts etc., the children realize that they were mistaken and change their opinions.

KBC respectful language can be slowly introduced. “I agree with.....” “I want to add on to”, “I disagree with ...because”, “I think”, “I notice”, “It reminds me of”.

KBC On “What Do You Know About Trees?” (words filled in by teacher Janice Haines)

- Patrick - “what do we say about?”
- Jasper - “trees?”
- What do you know about trees?
- Patrick - “ Sun, soil and water. Seeds and roots.”
- William - “leaves. Falling off”
- Kasey - leaves change colour
- Samantha - the sun. (what about the sun?) um, (threw stone)
- Elliot - IF THEY DON'T HAVE SUN, THEY CAN DIE, OR WATER, OR FRUITS THEY CAN DIE.
- Jasper - we need trees because they give us water and things to keep on the ground and if we don't have trees we won't have much stuff to breathe in, they help us breathe.
- Knoxton - they help us breathe
- Renee - I agree with Jasper



- Emily - they need sun, water, soil and roots.
- Emma - TREES HAVE LEAVES and the leaves and bugs eat the leaves and the leaves change colours.
- Lucas - chose not to speak
- Victoria - they fall off the trees - prompt - the leaves
- Aubrey - the leaves fall off the tree
- Kadence - the leaves fall off the tree
- Hunter - the leaves change colours
- Ethan - roots help the trees, um, so they don't fall down, they need soil to grow and everyday it needs water and sun and love
- Patrick - time (sentence) branches! (sentence) trees need branches for the leaves to hold on and that's why leaves have a stem
- Knoxton - trees has branches and need sun and seeds and rain cuz they'll die. The sun makes them grow...
- Gurjaap - leaves change colours
- Mason - trees can't grow without water, sun or love
- Jasper - they need love
- Phoebe - they change colour
- Lily - leaves change colour
- Elliot - trees need soil if they don't have soil they cannot grow and they need bark to make them stable
- Ethan - they also have leaves so they can have maple syrup
- Patrick - the leaves on the trees change colour because they grow and need water, soil and dirt and roots.
- Jasper -(without rock) they have a trunk
- Hunter - the leaves fall of the trees
- Elliot - trees need their wood, if they don't have wood they won't grow
- Jasper - trees get syrup from their trunk
- Ethan - if they don't get soil or like, if it rains, or like, if they don't get soil or water they will die and then people will have to use it for houses.

Next step is to start to explore some of the thoughts through books, videos, research, experts, art etc.