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# Here's What's Happening in Second Grade!

Mrs. Adams' Class

March 2-6, 2015

## Reading

In Reading this week we finished our study of Non-fiction Text Features by exploring Types of Print (bold, italics, capitals, etc.), Glossary, and Index. We looked at examples of each and then the children practiced using them with their own nonfiction animal book. We have been keeping track of our learning in our Thoughtful Logs. We also

discussed other types of features that can often show up in Nonfiction, such as Fun Facts, Maps, Diagrams, etc. We also had fun celebrating Dr. Seuss this week when we held our annual "Camp Read A Lot" in the hallway upstairs. The children enjoyed reading their favorite books for 2015 seconds! In word study this week we

practiced with homophones (words that sound the same but have different meanings and different spellings, such as deer and dear). We also reviewed some commonly misspelled High Frequency words using a Buddy Check Activity.

## Writing

The children have been working hard on their non-fiction animal reports in writing. This week we continued drafting the content and also added an Introduction

and Conclusion. We looked at several examples of ways to set up the reader and then wrap up what was learned, and the children chose the method they liked best.

Then we spent time revising and editing our work, and finally began to publish a Table of Contents and added a photograph with labels.

## Math

In math this week we continued to study fractions. We reviewed and practiced writing fractions and shading parts to match a given fraction. We also began to discuss fractions of a set instead of fractions of a whole. This would include

a set of pennies, cheerios, etc. This is just an introduction and will not be a tested skill. We used fraction cards to compare fractions and play games called Fraction Top it and the Equivalent Fraction Game. Next week we will solve

fraction number stories and have our assessment on Unit 8. We will have one more unit before the end of the third quarter.

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## Upcoming Events:

3/6—Barrie Spirit Day  
3/19—Art and Learning Fair  
3/27—Early Release  
End of 3rd Quarter  
3/30-4/3—Spring Break

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## Reminders:

It's almost time again to study/review Geography Maps for the Third Quarter assessment! Practice maps will be sent home soon.

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## Next Week's Specials

Monday: Music

Tuesday: IMC, Art

Wednesday: PE

Thursday: Music

Friday: PE

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## Science

In Science this week the children continued to investigate solids that behave like liquids. They sorted solids like rice and beans into bottles and compared how they moved, sounds they made when shook, etc.

## Social Studies

In social studies we learned that memorials and monuments are built to honor important people and events from history. We explored the Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument and I showed the children photographs from my visit there years ago.

We also began a study of American symbols. The first symbol we learned about is the American flag. We read a book and the children took notes on the important facts worth remembering. We will continue next week with additional symbols.

## Health/Guidance/Handwriting

In Health this week we discussed the affects that drugs and alcohol can have on our health. We talked about ways to refuse these substances

if they are ever offered to us. We also learned that medicine is a type of drug that can improve our health, but only if it is given by a doctor or an

adult. We discovered that many types of candies can look similar to medicine and pills, so it is important to always have a label or package.

## Special Announcements

### Learning Fair

Preparations for the Learning Fair have begun! Students who chose to participate are working either alone or with a group.

They have the opportunity to work at school on Mondays and Wednesdays during lunch recess, or at home. I am looking forward to seeing all the finished products!

### Math Game of the Week:

[www.everydaymathonline.com](http://www.everydaymathonline.com)  
"Fraction Top-It"

This is a two-player game. The object is to get the card with the bigger fraction. It gives children practice with comparing fractions using fraction cards.

### Ask Your Child:

- What is another fraction that is equal to  $1/2$ ?
- What did you learn about the American Flag?