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

Mrs. Adams' Class

February 16-20, 2015

## Reading

This week in reading we explored the difference between the Fiction genre and the Nonfiction genre. The children sorted features of each genre into the correct categories and then identified those features in books from our library. They also practiced sorting books from their own book boxes, and we discussed the importance

of checking out a balance of both genres for independent reading. We will be spending the next few weeks studying this genre as readers, and then applying our learning to writer's workshop as we create our own nonfiction animal reports. In word study we reviewed vowel teams and learned how to make words ending in a consonant + y

into the plural form by dropping the y and adding ies.

Congratulations to the participants of the Interpretive Reading Contest!

I am so proud of all of you wonderful readers!



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## Upcoming Events:

2/2—Building Level Interpretive Reading Contest

2/20—Early Release  
2/23, 2/24—OLSAT testing

3/6—Barrie Spirit Day

3/19—Art and Learning Fair

## Writing

We had an exciting week in writing! We are beginning to plan for writing our nonfiction animal reports, so we began doing our research this week. The children

chose an animal, wrote about their background knowledge, and checked out a nonfiction book from the library to give them information about their animal. As a second source for research, the children learned how to use

their own personal Chromebook and the website Pebblego.com to research their animal and take notes in their Research Notebook. They are doing such a great job!

## Math

This week in math we continued to practice telling time and distinguishing between AM and PM. Some children are still struggling to correctly read an analog clock. If you have some teachable moments at home to allow your child to

practice this skill it will make a big difference at school. Integrating some AM/PM questions would also be very helpful. We also practiced identifying patterns in a sequence of numbers and played a game called Hit the Target with

calculators. Finally, we reviewed strategies for subtraction, including mental math, number grid, and the trade first algorithm, and we continued to practice addition with more than two numbers.

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## Reminders:

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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 experimented with the liquid levels of different sized containers. They predicted how the levels would change and then tested their predictions.

## Social Studies

In social studies this week we reviewed the names of the leader of a city (mayor), the leader of a state (governor), and the leader of our country (president). We took a closer look at the president's job and what you have to do in order to be president.

We took a virtual tour of the White House and looked at some pictures of when Mrs. Adams visited! Finally, we read about the three branches of government and learned how they worked together, and we learned about the Constitution.

## Health/Guidance/Handwriting

This week in health we celebrated Dental Health Month! We read several stories and watched a BrainPop! video on the importance of taking care

of your teeth and visiting the dentist. We also welcomed a dental hygienist who came to talk to us about how to brush and how to floss. She also

showed us tools that are used at the dentist's office and taught us what our teeth are made of!

## Special Announcements

### OLSAT Testing

2nd graders in Fort Atkinson will be taking the OLSAT test on February 23 and 24. These results are not sent home, but if you are interested in finding out how your child scored on the test, please let me know and I can share the results with you once they are scored.

### Math Game of the Week:

[www.everydaymathonline.com](http://www.everydaymathonline.com)

#### "Basketball Addition"

We played this game in class this week. It's a great way for children to practice adding more than 2 numbers at a time.

### Ask Your Child:

- What animal are you researching?
- How many times a day should you brush your teeth? For how long?
- What is PebbleGo?