



Here's What's Happening in Second Grade!

Mrs. Adams' Class

February 2-6, 2015

Reading

This week in reading the children were introduced to an app called Epic! which is like an electronic library. We will use the app on our iPads from time to time in small guided reading groups and students will have days during the week where they are allowed to read books from Epic! on an iPad during Read to Self. While we don't intend to let reading

on a device take the place of reading an actual book, it will be helpful for students to have practice reading from a screen as they will need to be able to do it when they take the Badger Exam next spring. We also continued working on Close Reading strategies using a Scholastic News article and Everyday Text resources. The children are becoming

more strategic and purposeful readers, and are doing a great job annotating text and responding about their thinking. Our Word Study lessons were on doubling the consonant and adding -ed or -er, as well as soft and card sounds that the letter 'c' can make, such as *cent* or *car*.

Writing

In writing this week, the children continued working on their Book Review. They revised their draft, and learned how to use a tool called a Thesaurus to help

them think of more powerful word choices to use. They also edited their writing for spelling, capitals, and punctuation. We paid special attention to the rules for

capitalizing book titles. Finally, we went to the computer lab to publish our final copy on the computer. The children also did some special 100th Day of School writing this week.

Math

In math this week we focused on a variety of topics, including constructing and reading a picture graph, counting coins and making \$1.00, and an introduction to 2-digit subtraction. We used tens and ones to learn how to "trade" in order to

have enough ones to subtract. We also learned how to count back tens and ones on a number grid. We also learned how to make an array and represent the dots using a multiplication or repeated addition number model. We are just

beginning an introduction to multiplication and the children are excited about learning this new skill! Please continue to practice +/- facts, counting money, and telling time with AM and PM at home.

Upcoming Events:

2/5, 2/10—Conferences and Book Fair
2/9—100th Day of School!
2/13—Valentine Party!
2/17—Classroom Level Interpretive Reading Contest
2/20—Early Release

Reminders:

Now that we are halfway through the year, ask your child if he/she needs any school supplies replenished. Pencils, erasers, crayons, etc. often run out by this time :)

Next Week's Specials

Monday: Music
Tuesday: IMC, Art
Wednesday: PE
Thursday: Music
Friday: PE

Science

In Science this week the children continued working with solids. They played a game in which they identified two solids and told how they were alike using their properties.

Social Studies

In Social Studies we have been learning about ways we can honor our country by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance or singing the Star Spangled Banner. We learned what the words in each mean and why they are included. We also discussed our rights and

responsibilities as US citizens, and rules and laws we must follow to keep everyone safe. Finally, we discussed governments services like garbage collectors, mail carriers, etc. and how they help keep our community running smoothly.

Health/Guidance/Handwriting

This week we worked on writing the letters Nn, Mm, and Hh in handwriting. We have been learning that different types of handwriting are good for different things. For example, if I'm making a grocery

list, I don't need my printing to be neat, because only I am going to read it. If I'm working in the classroom, I would like my handwriting to be neat enough so my teacher can read it. And if I'm publishing

something that will be displayed for others to see, I will use my best, ALL STAR printing! We also learned how to accept responsibility and apologize for something in guidance.

Special Announcements

OLSAT Testing

2nd graders in Fort Atkinson will be taking the OLSAT test on February 23 and 24. More information will follow.

Math Game of the Week:

www.everydaymathonline.com
"Number Grid Difference Game"
This game gives children practice in finding differences on a Number Grid. This is a two-player game. We played it in class on Friday. Your child can teach you how to play!

Special Events:

We will have our Valentine's Day party on Friday, February 13th. A list of students in our class has been sent home and students can begin bringing valentines next week. If you would like to bring something for this party, please let me know. We only had a few people sign up at Back to School Night :)