



---

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

Mrs. Adams' Class

January 12-16, 2015

## Reading

In reading we have been exploring the procedural genre (how-to). We have read several mentor texts to identify characteristics of the genre and noticed techniques that the authors used to help us prepare for writing in this genre. We also began using a comprehension strategy called Questioning. Strategic readers ask questions

before, during, and after they read to help deepen their comprehension. We practiced questioning using some procedural texts as well as narrative stories. We are working on developing questions that are deep, and allow us to understand the story better. We are also learning that questions can be answered in the text, through discussion, through inferring, or through readers' schema.

In Word Study we had lessons on consonant digraphs (ch, th, sh, wh) and -ice, -ide, and -ine as well as -oke, -obe, -ore, and -ope word families. We continue to meet in small reading groups to practice skills and grow as readers. We will also be practicing Read to Self for longer periods of time. It is a 2nd grade expectation that children read for 30 minutes in one sitting by the end of the year.

## Writing

We began a new Nonfiction Unit in writing after break. The children have been writing procedural text, explaining "how-to" do a fun winter activity. We have been

working on sequencing the steps using a flow chart, adding interesting transition words, and topping it off with an introduction and conclusion. We will finish our

pieces next week when we will publish, reflect, and share. I will share these with you at our conferences in February.

## Math

In math this week we continued our study of plane shapes. We know that a polygon is a closed shape that has straight sides. Some polygons have many names, so we have been working hard to keep them all straight!

We've been practicing identifying the shapes by their attributes (sides, angles, corners, etc.). We also transitioned into studying solid shapes, like spheres, prisms, cubes, cones, and cylinders. We learned about their attributes, including

faces, edges, and vertices. We also spent time reviewing number grid puzzles and introducing am/pm with clocks. We had our Unit 5 Assessment on Thursday and will begin Unit 6 on Monday.

---

## Upcoming Events:

1/19—Q2 Geography Test  
1/22—EARLY RELEASE  
1/23—No School, End of Quarter 3

---

## Reminders:

Please continue to study for the Quarter 2 District Geography Test on Monday!

---

## Next Week's Specials

Monday: Music

Tuesday: IMC, Art

Wednesday: PE

Thursday: PE

Friday: Music

---

## Science

In Science the children finished studying the tundra and have moved on to ponds. Their last destination is the ocean. At the beginning of the third quarter they will begin a new unit on Solids and Liquids.

## Social Studies

This week in Social Studies, we learned about immigrants, Ellis Island, diversity, and traditions. We also learned about different holidays that are celebrated in our country and why they are celebrated: to honor a person, an event, or a

belief. Our Q2 Geography Test will be on January 19th. Please review the 3 maps with your child. A grade for this test will be reported on the report card. Next quarter we will begin a new unit on Government and special Americans!

## Health/Guidance/Handwriting

In Handwriting we practiced the letters Gg, Jj, and Qq. These letters are grouped together because the lower case letters have descenders. We also had a Guidance lesson on how to ask for

help politely. We examined a scenario and brainstormed ways to get help from a peer or an adult. We also talked about how to know when you need help, and about the importance of taking your time

to try to help yourself before asking others.

## Special Announcements

### Interpretive Reading Contest

A permission slip was sent home last week explaining details about the Interpretive Reading Contest. This is an optional activity. We discussed it in class so the children understand what it entails. If your child would like to participate, please return the permission slip by Monday. More information to follow.

### Math Game of the Week:

Penny Cup

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

Penny Cup is a great way to quickly practice addition facts. It features opportunities to find number complements up to sums of 10 or 20.

GO PACK GO!!!

