



Here's What's Happening in Second Grade!

Mrs. Adams' Class

Nov. 10-14, 2014

Reading

In reading this week we studied the structure of a story in the narrative genre. We used a story map to identify the beginning, middle, and end of the story. We also examined some of our favorite mentor texts to see how the authors used detail to *SHOW* rather than *TELL* the audience about their experience. We also identified

places where an author used powerful words and/or phrases to making the writing come alive. We recorded things we noticed in our Thoughtful Logs. Our Word Study lessons this week focused on -ack, -eck, -ick, -ock, and -uck endings. We know that when a word has a short vowel the "k" sound at the end is usually spelled with "ck". This can also help

us when reading. We also learned about the 'e' that is at the end of many words. It doesn't make any sound, but it can change the way a word looks, how it sounds, and what it means.

Writing

The children are writing a personal narrative about a "first" of their choice. We made a list of topics, and the children chose their favorite. After we became

familiar with the beginning, middle, end structure of a narrative, we planned our own narratives in the same way. The children completed their planner similar to the way we did with our mentor

text. Next, we drafted our stories using the *SHOW* not *TELL* technique we learned in reading, and inserting powerful words and phrases whenever possible!

Math

We began a new unit in Math this week. We started by focusing on telling time. We practiced telling time to the 5-minute interval and placing the hands correctly at the :00 and :30 times. We also began learning about how to add

2-digit numbers. We've been using diagrams to help organize the numbers and how to understand the process. We will be learning how to add and subtract in a different way than you and I learned.

Please read the Family Note on each Home Link to help you understand how the children should be solving problems, and refrain from teaching the children a "carrying" or "borrowing" strategy at this time.

Upcoming Events:

11/13, 11/18-
Conferences and Book Fair
11/26-28—NO SCHOOL
12/4—Barrie Winter Concert
12/5—Barrie Spirit Day!

Reminders:

- If you have any gently used small toys or trinkets that you would like to donate, I will put them in my prize box at school! Thank you!

Next Week's Specials

Monday: Music

Tuesday: PE

Wednesday: PE

Thursday: Music

Friday: IMC/Art

Science

This week in science the children shifted from learning about plants to learning about different types of animals. They classified animals into groups of mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and insects, and learned how to tell what group each living thing belongs in.

Social Studies

In Social Studies we read about four groups of Native Americans that settled in our country: the Northwest Coast, the Southwest, the Eastern Woodlands, and the Plains. We learned that each tribe lived in different parts of the country, so they had different kinds of homes, wore different clothes, and spoke

different languages. How they lived depended on where they lived. We made a map of the country and colored in the regions where these tribes would have lived. Next we will spend a day on each tribe to get to know more about how the Native Americans lived so long ago.

Health/Guidance/Handwriting

This week in handwriting we reviewed the first six letters we have been practicing: Oo, Aa, Dd, Ll, Ii, and Tt. We practiced writing them in the context of words and

sentences. We reflected on our printing by going back to circle letters with good shape, size, spacing, and slant.

Special Announcements

I am looking forward to meeting with you at conferences over the next few weeks. Please take some time to look over your child's report card together.

Math Game of the Week:

"The Number Grid Game"

This game can be found on the website

www.everydaymathonline.com.

This game is a great resource for practicing counting on by tens and ones to add bigger, 2-digit numbers.

Brrrr! The weather definitely got cooler this week! As we approach winter, please take time to be sure you have your child's initials in his/her winter gear. This helps a lot when something gets lost!