



---

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

Mrs. Adams' Class

Sept. 29-Oct.3, 2014

## Reading

In reading this week we learned and practiced our 5th independent activity that the students can choose to work on when I am meeting with small reading groups. The activity is called Word Study. It involves the children practicing our 100 High Frequency words using activities called Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check, or Make, Say, Check,

Mix, or Buddy Check. All three of these are activities meant to allow the children to practice the words with the goal of achieving mastery. These words don't follow a specific spelling pattern or rule, so they are just good words to know by heart. After they finish they are allowed to use an iPad to play games related to spelling/word study/

phonics skills. The children are doing a great job with this routine so far! In our mini-lessons this week we shifted from a focus on the Narrative and Fiction genre to the Nonfiction genre. We are learning about the ways that Nonfiction is different than fiction. Next week we will begin to study Informational Poetry, which is a poem that teaches something.

---

## Upcoming Events:

10/28—Family Fun Night  
10/31—EARLY RELEASE  
10/31—Fall Party and Parade

---

## Reminders:

- Remember to be filling out the October book list for our 2nd Grade Reading Club! Our goal is to read 24 books each month.

## Writing

This week in writing we learned how to reflect on our writing by rereading our work and selecting a part of the process that we are proud of, and

part of the process that we want to **improve** on. The children completed a reflection sheet as they will for all their writing this year, which will allow them to set goals

for our next piece. We also learned how to share our writing in small sharing groups and how to give positive feedback to the author.

## Math

This week in math we began Unit 2. You should have received a Family Letter for Unit 2, which outlines the skills we will focus on in this unit. You will receive a Family Letter at the beginning of each unit throughout the

year. We spent a lot of time practicing addition strategies this week. We know how to use tools like a number grid to count on, we also know shortcuts for +0 and +1, as well as +9. We played a fun game called Beat the Calculator where the children are working on

mastering their facts to develop FACT POWER!!! We also visited the computer lab to learn how to use a program called XtraMath to help them gain fact fluency. Watch for a note in your child's folder about how you can use this program at home!

---

## Next Week's Specials

Monday: Music

Tuesday: PE

Wednesday: PE

Thursday: Music

Friday: IMC, Art

---

## Science

In science this week the children got to "mow" their lawns! They had fun using their scissors to cut the grass that had grown. They also learned about how seeds travel, and planted cuttings in hopes of observing nodes where new plants can grow.

## Social Studies

In social studies this week we learned how to use a map grid to find places on a map more quickly. We know that we can use the rows and columns on the sides of the map to find a location. We also learned that our planet has 4 oceans and 7 continents. We practiced labeling these in our geography packets.

We will continue to practice labeling oceans, continents, countries, states, and cities. Later this month, the children will be taking our District Geography Test. We will take this test again at the end of every quarter, and next year in third grade the children will be expected to label more locations.

## Health/Guidance/Handwriting

In Guidance this week we learned about bullying. We defined bullying, gave examples of what bullying is and is not, identified the three roles in a bullying situation (bully,

bullied, bystander) and discussed the difference between reporting and tattling. We can remember that reporting is done to get someone OUT of trouble, while tattling

is done to get someone INTO trouble. The students should be equipped with some strategies to use if they encounter an experience with bullying.

## Special Announcements

Thank you for all of the donations to the students for their hard work during our Barrie Blitz! They had a blast and it was such a beautiful day! What a great way to promote health and wellness while raising money for our school!



### Ask Your Child:

- Tell me about Beat the Calculator!
- Can you remember the four oceans? The seven continents?
- What is your 4th grade buddy's name?