



Here's What's Happening in Second Grade!

Mrs. Adams' Class

Sept. 22-26, 2014

Reading

This week we continued with our Reading Workshop routine, which consists of a 90-minute block of time comprised of Word Study, Mini-Lesson, Small Group meetings/Independent literacy activities, and Sharing. The children are doing a great job being self-regulated learners and staying busy and purposeful when they are not meeting

in a small group! In Word Study we learned how to use an activity called Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check to help us master some High Frequency words. We also reviewed what we know about short vowels and did a word sort to help us distinguish between the different sounds. In our mini-lessons we practiced finding evidence in our mentor

texts and independent reading books to prove that the genres were realistic or fantasy fiction, and we also learned how to write about our evidence in our Thoughtful Logs. Thank you for your help this week in being sure your child is reading his/her take home book for 15 minutes each night. This will make a big difference at school!

Upcoming Events:

9/30—Picture Retake Packages Due
10/3—Barrie Spirit Day!
10/3—EARLY RELEASE

Reminders:

Writing

This week in writing we put all our practice with capitalization and punctuation rules together to learn how to EDIT our stories. The children will use a green pen to

correct errors in punctuation and capitals and a red pen to edit spelling. This is the hardest step in the process, so I expect that the stories will improve over

time. We also learned how to publish our writing by copying it onto nice paper and including all the changes we made.

Next Week's Specials

Monday: PE

Tuesday: PE

Wednesday: Music

Thursday: IMC, Art

Friday: PE

Math

We are moving right along in Everyday Math! This week we practiced distinguishing between even and odd, learned how to use a calculator, and learned how to read the temperature on a thermometer! We also

went to the computer lab to log on to the EM website for the first time. The children had a blast playing games individually and with each other. This is a GREAT resource to use at home for extra practice,

especially with basic facts. We also had our first Home Link this week. Thank you for your help in getting these completed and returned on time. We had our Unit 1 Assessment and you will receive the results next week!



Science

In science this week the children observed their lawns and their wheat with Mrs. England. They continue to record their observations in their science notebooks. They also read about what plants need to live.

Social Studies

In social studies this week we learned five important vocabulary words related to geography, including *region, location, cardinal directions, landform, and climate*. We also practiced comparing and contrasting things to help us understand what we read. We learned that location can be described in two ways:

absolute location and relative location. We shared the relative location of where we live (ex. My house is near Barrie School). We also learned about how maps use symbols to show where places are, and map keys can tell us what the symbols mean. We drew some of our own symbols and practiced finding them on a map.

Health/Guidance/Handwriting

In handwriting we have been focusing on the 4 S's of neat printing. We started with shape, and paid close attention to how we formed our letters using vertical, hori-

zontal, slant, and curve lines. Then we moved on to size, where we learned where each letter belongs on the three lines: headline, midline, and

baseline. Next we practiced our spacing between letters and words. Finally we practiced making sure our letters have appropriate slant.

Special Announcements

This week we began checking out take-home books. Your child will bring home a book bag and a take-home book every night. Reading will be part of your child's nightly homework. Please plan to set aside 15 minutes of reading per night. Each day, your child should bring the book back to school to check out a new one. Books that are longer may take more than one night.

We also began Math Home Links this week. They will continue next week and almost every night after that. Please spend time reviewing these Home Links with your child each night to find out more about what we are doing at school.

Thank you for your help in modeling responsibility!

Ask Your Child:

- What is relative location?
- How can you tell if a number is even or odd?
- What was your favorite activity in the Barrie Blitz?