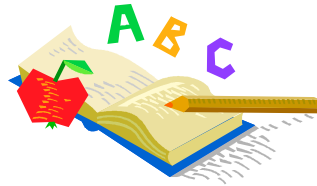




2nd Grade News

Rockenbaugh



Language Arts

Spelling

Please continue to work with your child on the daily spelling activities.

Reading:

We are meeting with our Guided Reading groups and conferencing with individual students about their reading.

We have been reading and discussing the differences in books with and without dialogue.

We read Stellaluna in language arts and learned some differences between bats and birds as well as the importance of being open to new friends. Our reading and writing about bats in language arts and sci-

ence helped reinforce learning.

We will be reading about the Pilgrims and the Indians as we integrate social studies with language arts. A focus on problem/conflict and on questioning while we read will be a natural fit with the subject of why the Pilgrims left England and the difficulties they faced after arrival.

Students are expected to read at least 20 minutes each night. Be sure to record the minutes on the reading log in the folder.

Writing:

Writing small moment stories is an important focus. Students are taking a small moment and stretching it out into a story.

We are identifying action verbs and common, proper and plural

nouns as we study sentences.

We have focused on writing complete sentences in all our work.

As we approach our Thanksgiving holidays, students will write about what they are thankful for in their lives.

Sharing Thanksgiving books will give us the opportunity to learn more about the early Americans and about our traditions.

Feature Presentation:

For the month of November, we will study William Steig. After reading Dr. DeSoto, the students will write a letter from the point of view of the dentist, a mouse, to his client, a hungry fox. We will also read Amos & Boris and Brave Irene and explore the themes of friendship and courage.

November 2009

Coming Attractions:

- ☺ 11/3 Positive Proof
- ☺ 11/4 Diabetes Walk
- ☺ 11/9-11/13 Super Science Sale in Science Lab
- ☺ 11/9 Measurement Project due
- ☺ 11/10 Veteran's Day 3rd grade program 2:00
- ☺ 11/11 Kim Brown author visit
- ☺ 11/15 Texas Recycles Day
- ☺ 11/16 Timeline Project due
- ☺ 11/18 Dragon Day
- ☺ 11/20 Report Cards
- ☺ 11/23 -11/27 Thanksgiving holidays



Math

We are finishing fact families and will begin our unit on measurement. The children will explore with a variety of "nonstandard" units (paperclips, popsicle sticks, straws, cubes, etc.) as they compare the lengths of different items.

After we read the book How Big Is a Foot?, they will have a better understanding of why a standard system of measurement is essential!

We will first focus on linear measurement. We will learn to measure in customary (inches, feet, yards) and standard international SI/metric (centimeters, decimeters, meters) units. We will learn to use tools (yardsticks, rulers, tape measurers) to take exact measurements.

Other areas of measurement we will

focus on are mass/weight and capacity. As we measure the mass/weight of an object, the children will learn the customary (ounces, pounds, tons) units as well as the SI/metric (grams, kilograms) units. Ask your child which is heavier, an ounce or a pound. Can they share an example of what may weigh an ounce or a pound? We will also focus on the measure of capacity in both customary (cups, pints, quarts, gallons) and SI/metric (liters, milliliters) units. Ask your child how many quarts are in a gallon or how many pints make a quart.

There will be a fun at home Measurement Project this month. It will be the only homework assignment for that week. The project goes home on Monday, November 2, and is due on Monday, November 9.

Please record minutes of math fact practice. Math websites are on the Links section of the webpage.

Science

Social Studies

We have learned about the earth's layers, rocks, caves and bats. Reading about bats helped us learn to distinguish between fact and opinion. Students had a choice of several extension activities about bats.

Students made a cave with stalactites and animals and then wrote a descriptive story about their cave. Pilgrim/Indian/Thanksgiving activities will be integrated with language arts. We will use a website with a timeline for students to learn more about traveling across the ocean on the Mayflower.

Students will make a timeline of events in their own lives. This will be the only homework assignment for the week. Instructions will go home on Monday, November 9, and it will be due on Monday, November 16.