



Room 9 Weekly Newsletter

Week of February 12 - 16, 2018

Reading

Reading lessons this week focused on:

- identifying green (in the text), yellow (several places in the text), and red (use the text + our brains) questions to help us focus on how to answer them when talking about books
- reading more biographies and nonfiction texts about famous African Americans (Henry "Box" Brown, Harriet Tubman, Ruby Bridges) and having very deep conversations about them

In addition, I have started reading and sight word assessments with individual children in preparation for report cards coming home in mid-March.

Math

We have started our next math unit:

Addition and Subtraction to 1,000! This week has focused on improving our fluency with adding and subtracting tens and hundreds from 2- and 3-digit numbers. Some of us are using a 100 chart or drawing blocks to help us, but most of us are starting to be able to solve these types of problems using mental math now. We're starting to notice that when we add or subtract 10s or 100s, we only have to change one digit in our starting number! 😊 We've played "scoot" games to practice and learned a fun strategy game called "101 and Out" to practice adding tens!

On Valentine's Day, we did an addition / coloring activity that used counting by 10s. We also graphed a small box of candy hearts each and wrote 3 facts about our graphs. Then we played various Valentine games, including a "Battleship" coordinate grid game with candy hearts! So much fun!



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Writing

We began writing the pages of our planet books this week! We're working on remembering the format for a PARAGRAPH (topic sentence, 3-5 details, concluding sentence) and treating each section as its own paragraph. We're also trying to use transition words (for example, also, first, finally) and talk to the readers too. Some of us are designing our own page layouts to match what we've seen in other nonfiction books and to suit the needs of our information too! We have worked on adding CAPTIONS to our diagrams and a CONCLUSION as well. We'll be finishing up our writing next week so we can work on our slideshow, poems, posters, and paintings! 😊

Spelling and Phonics lessons included:

- long u patterns UE and EW
- distinguishing between OW and EW
- synonyms and antonyms with words on candy kisses 😊
- making words with the letters in our mystery word SQUEAKED

Science / Social Studies

We finished up our Social Studies unit on COMMUNITIES as we compared and contrasted the three types of communities: Rural, Suburban, and Urban. We also did some learning about various COMMUNITY HELPERS we'd encounter in our neighborhoods. We researched community helpers and created our own community wall display to show what we've learned! We added community helpers, buildings, and even some vehicles!

We had visitors from The Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse come this week for our yearly Personal Safety program. Through discussion and a puppet show, we learned how we are the bosses of our bodies, how to stand up for ourselves if someone is making us uncomfortable, the importance of having trusting adults we can talk to, and the difference between good and bad touches. We also learned about being safe while online too. Your child brought home a blue bookmark with information highlighting what he/she learned today and should share it with you so you can help reinforce these safety measures with your child.

Announcements

** Just a reminder that our trip the high school is on February 26th. We leave promptly at 9:00 a.m. so please be sure your child arrives on time if you drop them off or they may miss the trip.

** We'll be having a "Planetary Gallery Walk" / Celebration to end our nonfiction writing unit so be on the watch for an invitation to come see what we've been up to! 😊