



Room 9 Weekly Newsletter

Week of November 13-17, 2017

Reading

In Reading workshop, we have focused on:

- using MULTIPLE strategies to decode unfamiliar words
- jotting down our THINKING and REACTIONS as we read independently
- listening to and pulling out IMPORTANT information from nonfiction texts to take notes as a group on tigers (while learning basic note-taking skills)
- introducing the concepts of FACT (can be proven) and OPINION (someone's feelings about something) as we explored turkeys
- continuing to practice reading FLUENTLY and EXPRESSIVELY with attention to punctuation
- identifying CHARACTER TRAITS and providing SUPPORTING TEXT EVIDENCE to justify our word choices

Math

In Math, we have continued to enjoy our GEOMETRY UNIT as we:

- did problem-solving with 2-D (plane) shapes
- learned about 3-D (solid) shapes: SPHERE, CYLINDER, PYRAMID, CUBE, RECTANGULAR PRISM, and CONE
- learned how many VERTICES, FACES, and EDGES 3-D shapes have, with a particular focus on the CUBE
- learned some catchy songs to help us remember shape names (you can find them on YouTube if you look for "The Polygon Song" and "3D Shapes That I Know")

In addition, we have reviewed odd and even numbers and missing addends. We also counted our money and visited the classroom store on Friday! Always fun! ☺



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Writing

We have continued to rewrite and illustrate the books we are sharing at our Writing Celebration next week. We're so excited to share our writing and our fluent and expressive reading skills! ☺

Some of the kids have begun to try their hand at writing NONFICTION books as well! This will be our new unit after Thanksgiving. ☺

Our spelling lessons have focused on:

- long and short vowel sounds as well as "rule breakers" like HAVE and DONE
- using the -ed ending to show past tense and learning it has 3 sounds: /t/, /d/, and /ed/

Science / Social Studies

We've been learning about the First Thanksgiving this week. We had a wonderful discussion with TONS of questions about the Pilgrims' and Wampanoag Indians' first Thanksgiving! We had fun comparing the Pilgrims' two homes by making a diorama of the Old World (England) and the New World (America) too! We even learned some new facts about wild turkeys! Did you know Benjamin Franklin wanted to make the turkey our national bird??

We had an assembly on Tuesday to review the WITS program to provide us with some tools to help us solve social conflicts:

- W - Walk Away
- I - Ignore
- T - Talk it out
- S - Seek help from an adult

Announcements

** You can use a website called SpellingCity.com to practice spelling words at home! You can register and enter the week's word list to play fun games to practice them. ☺ (Some games can only be accessed if you purchase a membership, but the FREE ones are fun too!)

** NO SCHOOL November 22-24th for Thanksgiving Recess.

** Parent-Teacher Conferences are on Thursday, December 7th (NO SCHOOL for the kids) and Thursday, December 14th (HALF DAY for the kids). Report cards will be handed out at the conferences. Reminders of your dates and times went home. ☺

** Our Writing Celebration is on Tuesday, from about 2:05 until 3:00 **IN THE LIBRARY**. If you're planning to come, please be on time. We come from our special and will want to start as quickly as we can so we have time to read our stories and then eat refreshments. ☺ Bring ID to sign in when you arrive!