



Reading Corner

We are continuing in our Character unit. Students will learn that characters often face a series of hurdles that grow bigger until the climax, when the character is prompted to resolve the problem. We will look for patterns in a character's thoughts and reactions to problems, all while noticing the choices they make during the story's climax. Readers will also learn lessons alongside their characters. We will use and examine story mountains, where we will continue to understand how characters fit into the shape of a story.

Questions to ask at home:

- * **How do you learn about the characters in books?**
- * **What have you learned about the characters in your book so far?**
- * **What theories have you developed about these characters?**
- * **What questions might you like to ask a character in your book?**

Writer's Workshop

We will continue to write in a persuasive format, but over the next couple of weeks we will be working in cause groups. Writers will be given the chance to be a part of a cause group that is tackling a large issue. For example, "healthy living." Writers will be given articles in which they will need to write a written response to a prompt that is given to them regarding the two articles. They will work on writing a claim that answers the question, along with gathering evidence that will support and prove their claim. Groups will be given the chance to share their persuasive pieces at the end of the unit.

To support your child at home:

*Encourage your child to support their requests with reasons and evidence. (*I think we should go to the park (claim) because then we can all get some movement (reason). For example, the kids can play tag while the parents run (evidence).*)

Upcoming Dates

Monday, February 18th-President's Day (No School for students)

Tuesday, February 19th-22nd
Winter Recess (No School for students)

Friday, March 8th Parent-Teacher Conferences (No School for students)

Announcements/Reminders:

Girls on the Run Spring Season!

Registration is now open for the Girls on the Run spring season. Questions: Email Coach Patterson at chloe.patterson@dc.gov.

Registration

link: <https://www.raceplanner.com/register/index/SE5RJVBAAKW553C>

Just-Right Books

Have you been looking for a book on your child's "just-right" reading level?

1. Go to www.scholastic.com (make sure you are on the teacher's view-**click on "teacher's home" in teacher drop down tab**)
2. Click on Book Wizard (on the top)
3. Click on Search by Reading Level
4. Click on Guided Reading, and put in your child's level
5. Thousands of books will appear on your screen. You can narrow your search by clicking on different buttons on the left side of the screen.

Eureka Math

We are continuing our work with fractions in module 5. Mathematicians have been identifying fractions on number lines. Over the next couple of weeks, students will generate simple equivalent fractions by using visual fraction models and the number line. We will also learn to express whole numbers as fractions and recognize equivalence with different units.

To support your child at home:

*Encourage your child to log onto Xtra Math (or practice flashcards) to practice multiplication and division fluency.

*Talk to your child about fractions of a whole. Discuss fractions when cooking or using measurement. Focus on $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{6}$ and $\frac{1}{8}$.

Must Know Spelling Words:

Each week, students will be introduced to 6 must know spelling words:

2/25: **dealt**, flew, froze, **broke**, **bought**, **built**

3/4: buses, reaches, prizes, pencils, patches, boxes

***bold words** are tested on spelling test

Grammar Practice:

Every two weeks we will focus on a new grammar skill. Our grammar skill for the next two weeks is:

Personal pronouns-

I, me, we, us, you, he, she, him, his, hers, they

Science and Social Studies

We are continuing our study of government by learning about the three branches of government. So far we have learned about the legislative branch and the executive branch. We will be moving to the judicial branch next.

To support your child at home:

* Discuss the branches of government and each branch's function.

* Ask your child which branch of government he/she feels is most important and discuss why.

* Discuss current political events and how they show the checks and balances system at work.



*Follow us on Instagram for photos:
brentthirdgraders