



Reading Corner

We are continuing in our research clubs, where students are collaborating with their group members to learn about various animals. Throughout this unit, we are focusing on group work and the importance of enthusiasm, commitment, and flexibility when working as a team. Our readers have recently been assigned a second animal to research. During this second bend, we will continue to notice text structures to help us organize our learning and compare and contrast animals using these text structures. The text structures that we will be focusing on include the boxes and bullets, compare and contrast, sequential, and cause and effect structures.

Questions to ask at home:

- * What are some facts you have learned about the animal that you are researching?
- *What type of lingo can you use to describe your animal?
- *Encourage your child to use transition words when she/he speaks about their animal topics (also, in addition to, on the other hand).

Writer's Workshop

We just finished our literary essays unit and will be moving onto our next writing unit, "The Art of Information". During this unit, students will become information writers by choosing a topic that they are experts in and writing about them by teaching others. Over the next few weeks, writers will explore a variety of text features that they feel will enhance their writing, such as a table of contents, drawings and captions, timelines, and definition boxes. Students will also learn how to use conjunctions to make their sentences stronger and longer and organize their writing with paragraphs.

To support your child at home:

- *Try asking them to elaborate on topics as much as possible in conversations to practice adding details to their ideas. (ex: "Wow, you know a lot about _____, can you tell me more?")
- *Ask about different text features that they are using to enhance their information writing pieces.

Upcoming Dates

Friday, March 13: Club Day #4
Uniform Free Day

Monday, March 16th: Staff
Professional Development Day: No
school for students

**Reminder: Our March 17th Supreme
Court field experience has been
canceled. Please stay tuned for
rescheduling information.**

Tuesday, March 24th: Black History
Wax Museum 1-3:15pm

Announcements/Reminders:

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.

*Encourage your child to use the online math programs Xtra Math and Zearn to practice and reinforce math fluency and problem-solving skills.

*Encourage your child to work on the corresponding Eureka math lesson worksheets in his/her homework packet.

Eureka Math

Mathematicians have been comparing fractions in relation to the whole. They will begin reasoning about their distance from zero and understand the distance and position on the number line as strategies for comparing fractions. 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 $\frac{1}{8}$.

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Must Know Spelling Words:

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

3/16: dreamed, showed, hopped, learned, kicked, finished

3/9: chose, cost, drew, meant, stolen, wrote

Grammar Practice:

3/16 & 3/23: Commas

*Commas follow specific rules when used in dates and addresses.

*Commas follow specific rules when used after introductory words and to set off the name of the person spoken to.

Science and Social Studies

Over the next few weeks, we will take a break from social studies and shift our focus to science in the classroom. We will launch our weather and climate unit, where students will observe and measure temperature, track changes in temperature, and distinguish between weather and climate.

To support your child at home:

* Discuss daily temperatures and changes in temperature over multiple days.

* Make observations about weather including temperature and precipitation.

* Talk about how climate is affected by a variety of factors including latitude, elevation, ocean winds and currents, terrain, and proximity to water.



*Follow us on Instagram for photos:
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