



SECOND GRADE SCOOP

A Curricular Glance

December

Reading Workshop

In Reading Workshop, we wrapped up our trek through our nonfiction unit of study. We learned how nonfiction books go, found the *lingo* authors use in their books, noticed key words about a variety of topics, as well we used our Phonics knowledge to solve unknown words by being flexible. We also read multiple texts about a topic. We then compared the information across texts to see what was similar and different. We discussed that there are sometimes *discrepancies* in informational texts.

Reading and comprehending nonfiction texts is very different from fiction. You can help your reader continue to grow by reading and discussing nonfiction books at home. While reading together, ask these questions:

*What *nonfiction text features* do you notice? Bold print? Table of contents? Glossary? Diagrams? Labels? Photographs? Captions?

*How can these *nonfiction text features* help you learn more about a specific topic?

*What are some of the *key words* and *lingo* you notice in the book?

*Are you able to figure out what the *key words* and *lingo* mean? How?

Please continue reading at least 20 minutes at home with your child every day! Be sure to read a variety of genres! 😊

Math Workshop

In Math Workshop, we wrapped up Unit 3 and began Unit 4: *Place Value and Measurement*. We kicked off the unit by reviewing how to tell time to the hour and half hour. We then moved on to telling time to the nearest five minute interval and differentiated between A.M. and P.M. We even dabbled with calculating elapsed time! Please keep working with your child on telling time to the nearest five minutes, using an analog clock. Students are also expected to accurately draw the hands on an analog clock. The optional math packet that came home last Friday, as well as accessing *XtraMath* and/or *Khan Academy* online are all great ways to get some extra practice!

Writing Workshop

In Writing Workshop, we wrapped up our nonfiction unit. During this unit, students self-selected a topic that they know a lot about. Then, they created a table of contents to outline what information and knowledge they wanted to share. Next, they learned how to write an enticing lead and a conclusion that leaves a lasting impression. They also wrote several interesting chapters, included a diagram with labels, chose bolded words and included them in a glossary, as well as surveyed their classmates to gather data, too! Look for these finished writing pieces to come home on Friday, January 10th! 😊

Science

In Science, we continued our trek through the *Structure and Properties of Matter* unit. Throughout the unit, students have had several opportunities to engage in various STEM challenges in cooperative, small groups. We even got together as an entire grade level one day! During these challenges, students explored the concepts of *sink vs. float*, *rigid vs. flexible*, and *absorb vs. repel*. Some of the best designed structures that students created were able to withstand both rain and wind storms. Be sure to ask your children about creating and testing their designs!

Phonics

In Phonics, we learned many different strategies for tackling multisyllabic words. This was especially helpful during our nonfiction reading and writing units, when we encounter lots of “juicy words”. We methodically solved these challenging words by breaking them down part-by-part. We identified “camouflaged consonants” and focused on the word endings *-ed*, *-ing*, *-s*, *-es* and *-tion*.