

November's

# Second Grade Scoop

*A curricular glance*



## Reading Workshop

In Reading Workshop, we kicked off our non-fiction unit! We immersed ourselves in various non-fiction texts. We noticed that non-fiction looks and reads *very* differently than fiction texts. We learned that non-fiction texts have unique features that help us learn additional information.

Some of these non-fiction text features include photographs, captions, maps, diagrams, headings, labels, bold print, table of contents, glossary and index. We created a foldable highlighting examples of these non-fiction text features to use for a reference, as we continue our trek through non-fiction.

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

- \*What non-fiction text features do you notice?
- \*How can these non-fiction text features help you learn more about a topic?
- \*What are some important keywords and "lingo" in the text?
- \*What is the main idea of the text?

*Please continue reading at least 20 minutes with your child every day!* 😊

## Math Workshop

In Math Workshop, we explored various addition and subtraction fact strategies. We know that in math there is only ONE right answer, but there are MANY ways to get it. Some of the strategies we focused on include the turn-around rule, fact families, doubles facts, -0 and -1 facts, as well as counting up and counting back.

We also learned some new games, which include *Name That Number* and *Salute*. Both of these games can easily be played at home with a regular deck of cards. Ask your child to teach you how to play! 😊

## Writing Workshop

In Writing Workshop, we began our second unit of study, *Non-Fiction*. We kicked off the unit by brainstorming topics that we know a lot about! We might even consider ourselves *experts* on these topics! Next, we selected one topic that we are excited to teach our readers all about. We worked on adding lots of details, which include important "lingo" relevant to our self-selected topics. We are excited to include a diagram, glossary and other important non-fiction text features to enhance our writing.

## Science

We kicked off a new Science unit, *Structure and Properties of Matter*. Students are enjoying this unit, as we have the opportunity to use our creativity and intelligence to solve various scientific problems. While solving these problems, students are exploring concepts such as *sink vs. float*, *repel vs. absorb* and *rigid vs. flexible*. We are enjoying the planning and designing phases right now and we cannot wait to test out our ideas in future lessons!

## Phonics

In Phonics, we learned about homophones. We especially focused on homophones that we see a lot when we read and use a lot in our daily writing. Some examples include: *their*, *there*, *they're*, *to*, *two*, *too*, *your* and *you're*. We also learned how to find *powerful word patterns* by studying words that rhyme. We used popular nursery rhymes, such as "Jack and Jill" and "Hey Diddle Diddle" to help. We are currently tackling multisyllabic words.