

October's

Second Grade Scoop



A curricular glance

Reading Workshop

In Reading Workshop, we rolled up our sleeves and got to work increasing our fluency, stamina and overall comprehension! Readers learned that we need to stop and think when we read, especially when something doesn't make sense. Sometimes it is helpful to *stop and jot* something we want to remember or have a question about. We shared our 'stop and jots' with our reading partners. Readers also learned that many words we read are "snap words" (read quickly and easily). Other words, however, are "tricky words". We realized that readers use multiple strategies to figure out unknown words. Some of these strategies include: using picture clues, sounding out the word bit by bit, looking for smaller words within a word, looking for common prefixes or suffixes, as well as reading on and using context clues to help figure out unknown words. We wrapped up our first reading unit by noticing how all of the parts in a book 'click together', especially at the end. We also thought about what some of our favorite authors want to teach us, by identifying the lesson learned in our books. Finally, we enjoyed making book recommendations to our peers. We have grown SO much as readers ... already! ☺

Please continue reading *at least 20 minutes* at home with your child every day. Be sure to have your child read aloud to you, at times, and ask what strategies are being used to solve those "tricky words".

Math Workshop

In Math Workshop, we worked on identifying numbers as even or odd, strategies to "make 10", as well as using "doubles" and "near doubles" facts to help us solve addition facts within 20. We also reviewed the "turn around" rule for addition (i.e. $7+3=10$ and $3+7=10$) and why it doesn't work for subtraction. All of these strategies are helping our mathematicians to build their fact fluency. Please continue to work on basic addition and subtraction facts at home with your child. Also practice telling time to the nearest 5 minutes on an analog clock, as well as identify and count coins.

Writing Workshop

In Writing Workshop, we focused on writing personal narrative (small moment) stories. These stories are about important and memorable events from our own lives. We learned how to start our stories with strong leads, add details such as onomatopoeia, dialogue and strong feelings, as well as wrap up our stories with powerful endings that make a lasting impression on our readers.

Hopefully you enjoyed reading through your child's writing! Please remember, these are *finished* pieces, not *published* pieces. You may have seen several mistakes and that is okay. Focus on the story being told and all of the strategies your child tried out in their writing to make it their very best!

Social Studies & Health

In Social Studies, we spent a lot of time exploring our community. We learned about various features of *rural, urban* and *suburban* communities. Be sure to check out our display in the hallway that illustrates our understanding. We also started to learn about maps. We looked at DK's boundaries and found some of our neighborhood streets!

In Health, we wrapped up our *Healthy Habits* unit. During the unit, we learned about the 5 food groups, ways to stay active, as well as the effects of too much caffeine on our bodies.

Phonics



In Phonics, we met our newest classmate, Gus! He has been helping us learn about homophones, troublemaker words and capital letter usage. We have been busy adding words to our *snap word* books, in order to help us tackle those tricky second grade words!