

Spring Is In The Air!

This website is designed so that we can share what's happening in our classroom with our family and friends. Here, you can find our daily schedule, read about special events, and learn about upcoming projects and subject skills.

Reading

We have now finished reading our newest chapter book, The Chocolate Touch. As we read this book, mini lessons were implemented. The lessons focused on reading strategies and skills. We have discussed context clues, plots, summarizing, and inference, along with several other skills. The children learned some great lessons from the story about character traits such as caring about others, taking responsibility for one's own actions, and being honest. Along with the skills learned, the children had fun learning about how chocolate is made through a video on the smart board. They also completed a web quest about the history of chocolate and ended the unit by making homemade fudge. What a perfect way to end a story!

Check out the website to view the process of making chocolate:

http://www.fieldmuseum.org/chocolate/manufacture_interactive/manufacture.html

Spelling

The children will continue to attain new weekly words. Each week the students take the pretest on Monday and the post-test is given on Friday. To avoid the "learn for the test and then forget" method, we are also learning the "rules" associated with each new pattern. We hope that this approach to spelling leads to more accurate spelling of words when the students are composing their own pieces of writing.

Grammar

We continue to diagram sentences with a new part of speech added every other week. We have come a long way and have learned many new parts of speech. The children are now able to diagram direct objects! Along with diagramming sentences, we are now identifying the different types of pronouns. We have discussed subject and object pronouns and will be moving on to possessive pronouns after spring break!

Math Math

Students work individually on assigned word problems every Monday. We discuss problem solving strategies and then review the problems as a whole group. Throughout the week we work on daily lessons. We have moved onto geometry skills. We have learned all about plane figures. The children also learned the formulas for perimeter and area. They had fun making plane figures with twizzlers and M&M's. We also had fun finding the area of our traced hands with popcorn and paper squares with Cheez-It crackers. We will be moving onto solid figures and making some 3-D figures with gumdrops and coffee stirrers. Snacks are always a great motivator!

Science

We have just completed our unit on matter. We discussed the different types of matter and the properties of them. We also learned about physical and chemical changes. We experimented with our balance to examine the mass of an object and how it is different than the weight of an object. The children will now be experimenting with motion. We will be exploring how friction and force play a role in motion. Experiments with force and magnetism will be taught in the next few weeks!

Social Studies

We are continuing with our Map Champ Atlas books and working hard exploring our continents and oceans. Along with their Atlas books, we have played many games on our smart board including jeopardy, matching, and mapping games. We are learning about communities, resources, as well as fine tuning our skills on geographical labeling.

Questions or Concerns?

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