



First Grade News



ISSUE 12

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Reading

This week in Readers Workshop, first graders looked closely at word endings and especially noticed words with -s and -ing suffixes. Students were encouraged to use the entire page to figure out the meaning of a new word. Finally, students “zoomed in” to look closely at difficult words and then “zoomed out” to think about the entire book. They asked themselves, “What is happening on this page” or “How does this fit with the whole story?”



Social Studies



Next week, we are beginning a new Social Studies unit learning about how people around the world celebrate many winter holidays. Over the next few weeks, we will study a variety of seasonal holidays to recognize how everyone is special and unique in our community. The holidays that we will focus on include: St. Nicholas Day, Hanukkah, St. Lucia Day, Las Posadas, Christmas, and Kwanzaa.

Foundations

This week in Unit 6 of Foundations, first graders learned about adding a suffix -s to a noun to make it plural. Students learned how the -s at the end of a word means more than one. They also learned how suffix -s can make two sounds: /s/ or /z/ (i.e. hats vs. bugs). First graders practiced marking up these words by underlining the base word and circling the suffix -s. We learned and practiced the trick words are and were this week!



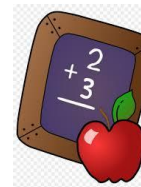
Writing

This week in writing students participated in a gallery walk where students showcased their writing and had the opportunity to read student stories from other classes. First graders loved showing off all of their amazing writing!



Math

In Unit 3, students are continuing to work on math facts within 10. Students discussed that when adding two numbers, they can use the commutative property, or “add in any order”. If they add and know that $8+2=10$ then they also know that $2+8=10$. Students also worked on understanding the meaning of the equals sign as “the same as”. Students interpreted equations with expressions on both sides of the equal sign to determine if equations were true or not. For example, the equation $6 + 4 = 3 + 7$ is true because both expressions have a value of 10. Finally, students discussed the relationship between addition and subtraction. Students explored using take away, counting on, or using addition facts to help them find the value of the difference between two numbers.



Racial Literacy

This week, we read the book One Family by George Shannon and Blanca Gomez. A family can mean so many things! The size of our families can be different. Where our families are from may be different. The colors and racial makeup of our families may be different. The members of our families may be different. First graders shared about their families in an effort to connect with others, recognize similarities and celebrate differences.



December 6th: Early Release (12:15 dismissal)

December 20th: Early Release (12:15 dismissal)

December 26th-January 1st: Winter Recess



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