



First Grade News



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Reading

This week first graders learned how important it is to read every word, even if they are long. Readers can slow down, look at all the parts of a word, and read them part by part. They also learned that nonfiction readers are not only curious about topics --they're also curious about words. When curious readers run into a new word, they use everything they know to read that new word and they think, 'What does this new word mean? Finally, nonfiction readers retell to make sure they understand and learn more about their books.

Math

This week first grade students continued our math unit on numbers to 99. Students wrote two-digit numbers to match different base-ten representations. Students also learned a new center *Writing Numbers* that provides practice counting and writing numbers up to 99 by 1s and by 10s. Students also practiced adding a two digit number and a multiple of 10.

Writing

This week in Writing, first graders edited their nonfiction writing by pretending to be readers. First graders checked that they used capital letters and punctuation, that they put spaces between words, and that they could read all of the words they wrote. Students also continued to add comparisons, detailed pictures, and facts to their writing.



Social Studies

This week in Social Studies, first grade students learned that February is Black History Month. Throughout the month, we will learn about many African Americans who made significant contributions to our country. This week we learned about civil rights activist Rosa Parks. First grade students learned that segregation is the separation of people based on their race, culture, religion, or other reason. Students learned that Rosa Parks stood up against segregation and that her actions helped to change unjust laws.



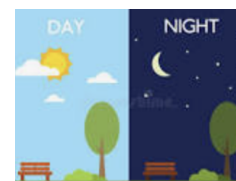
Fundations

We kicked off Unit 8 this week in Foundations. During this unit, students learn the difference between a blend and a digraph. A digraph contains two consonants and only makes one sound (i.e. sh, /sh/). A blend, however, contains two or more consonants but they each make their own sound, such as /s/ and /l/ in the word slip. First graders practiced marking up blends by underlining each consonant of the blend. We also introduced two r-controlled vowels (ar-car-/ar/ and or-horn-/or/) and learned three new trick words: would, could, should.



Science

This week we launched our new science unit, Sky Patterns. First grade scientists made observations to answer the essential question "What do you see in the sky?" We drew illustrations of day and night sky, as well as sorted pictures of space objects that can be seen during the day or ones that can be seen at night. Students focused on the phenomenon "It is light during the day and dark at night" by asking questions and making predictions.



Field Trip Reminder:

Please send in a signed copy of our permission slip to see Mr. Popper's Penguins along with payment (online, check, or cash) as soon as possible for our trip on February 14th. Thank you!



February 5th: 100th Day Celebration

February 7th: Early Release 12:15 dismissal

February 14th: Field trip Mr. Popper's Penguins

February 19th-23rd: February Break



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