



# First Grade News



ISSUE 4

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

## Social Emotional Learning

In Second Step, first graders learned about self-talk. Self-talk is a developmentally appropriate strategy students can use to help themselves listen, follow directions, and stay on task. Self-talk means talking to yourself out loud in a quiet voice or inside your head. Self-talk helps you follow directions and stay focused. Be sure to read and practice this skill at home using the Second Step Home Link.

## Reading

We are excited to launch “Readers Build Good Reading Habits” next week. As we begin to build those good habits, a reminder: your child’s “homework” is to read every night for 20 minutes. Your child can read aloud to you but you can also read aloud to your child. As you read, ask them comprehension questions about a character’s feelings, or the lesson of the book. At the end of the book, you could ask your child to retell you the story, sharing details from the beginning, middle and end.

## Social Studies

This week first graders learned about the Mid-Autumn Festival that is celebrated by millions of people in eastern Asia and around the world. For those of Chinese culture, it is also called the Moon or Mooncake Festival. It was originally celebrated to give thanks for a good harvest. Families and friends gather for nighttime celebrations to give thanks for a good year and to admire the moon. The festival is always on the 15th day of the eighth lunar month, a time when the moon is at its fullest.

## Science

This week we began our first Science unit, Weather & Seasons. First graders began by investigating the question “What is a Scientist?”. We brainstormed ideas about what scientists do, what they look like, and who might be a scientist. First graders learned that scientists ask questions, make hypotheses, and try again when things get tough. We learned that we are all scientists!



## Foundations



This week we continued work in Unit 1, which is a three week unit reviewing letter sounds and lowercase letter formation. This week we focused on the letters l, h, k, v, w, x, y, z, and q. We also worked on echoing, practicing letter key words and sounds, reviewing the lines and sky writing, and finally the proper pencil grip and posture for writing. Next week we will be completing an assessment on writing all of our lowercase letters and our letter sound knowledge

## Math

This week in math students continued working with surveys and collecting data. We thought of survey questions that we could ask or answer from the representations. We continued to discuss the different ways to represent data using words, pictures, numbers and tally marks and which ways were easier to interpret. We also continued many of the math centers from last week.



## Save the Date

**October 2nd:** Mrs. Fahey and Ms. Plouffe’s Classes Visit the Oaks of Eastman

**October 4th:** Early Release Day (12:15 dismissal)

**October 4th:** Mrs. Hasenfuss and Mrs. Morris’ Classes Visit the Oaks of Eastman

**October 6th:** Mrs. Lansdale’s Class Visits the Oaks of Eastman

**October 9th:** No School. Indigenous Peoples’ Day

**October 18th:** Early Release Day (12:15 dismissal)



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