



First Grade News



ISSUE 7

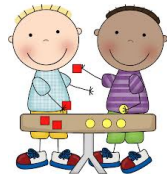
October 20, 2023

Reading

This week, first graders were reminded to drop those “bad habits” in both independent and partner reading. They also learned that every word that they read must make sense. After solving a word, readers should always check it by asking, “does this make sense?” and think about what is happening in the story.

Math

This week first grade students continued our math unit *Addition and Subtraction Story Problems*. Students composed and decomposed numbers in more than one way and represented these decompositions with their fingers, connecting cubes, two-color counters, drawings, and expressions. We learned a new version of Shake and Spill called Shake, Spill and Cover, which asks students to solve for the missing addend. Students also solved and represented story problems based on the context of the game, and explored the different places the total can be represented in an equation, which deepens understanding of the meaning of the equal sign.



Writing

In Writer’s Workshop, first graders have been working hard to add more details to their small moment stories and bring their stories to life! We learned to reread our writing pieces after we are done to notice places where we can add on or fix any mistakes, remembering that “when we think we’re done, we’ve only just begun!” We also learned how writers can “unfreeze” characters in their stories by making them move and talk. Many students have added quotes to their stories and even speech bubbles to their illustrations!



Science

We continue to have rich conversations about weather and the cycle of seasons. First graders ventured outside this week to sketch a fall tree in their Science Notebooks. They also looked closely at thermometers and we discussed what we noticed or wondered about the temperatures in fall.



Social Studies

In our Second Step lesson this week, first graders continued learning about empathy and how to identify others’ feelings. We discussed that in addition to using visual clues (faces & body language), we can listen to others’ *words* and think about the *situation* to identify how they are feeling. When we understand how others feel, we can get along better with them.

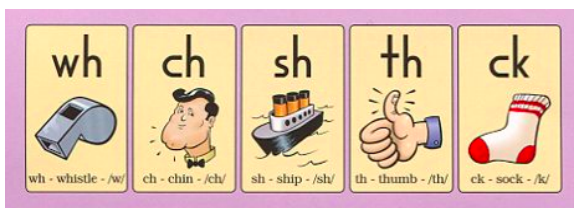


Save the Date

November 8th: Early Release Day (12:15 dismissal)
November 10th: No School (Veterans Day Observed)
November 22 - No School (PD for Teachers)
November 23-24 - No School (Thanksgiving Break)

Fundations

We kicked off Unit 3 in Foundations this week! First graders are learning about consonant digraphs: wh, ch, sh, th, and ck. These digraphs have two letters, but make one sound. We “marked up” the digraphs by underlining them in the words we wrote. We were digraph detectives! Students can also practice the digraph sounds at home with the Foundations keywords.





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