

Third Grade News



October 2009



Welcome to our Third Grade Newsletter!

This newsletter will provide information about curriculum content, upcoming important dates, other policies and procedures and, of course, all of the fun stuff! Here's what's coming up for October...

Volume 1, Issue 1

Reading/Language Arts

In September, our main focus was on elements and characteristics of realistic fiction. We discussed and identified elements which categorized stories as "believable" and "unbelievable".

In addition, the students have successfully completed Frayer Models and Concept Maps, two key vocabulary analysis strategies that help them understand new words.

In October, our focus will be switching to learning strategies to help us comprehend non-fiction text. We will use non-fiction books in addition to *Time for Kids* as our resources.



Math

We are currently working in Unit 1 which covers place value, organizing and collecting data, and addition and subtraction strategies.

The Accelerated Plus class has been hard at work learning geometry concepts. The target date for the assessment is the week of October 23rd. A separate newsletter will go home prior to the assessment reviewing the essential questions and key concepts of Unit One. We encourage all students to complete their homework to the best of their ability, and to practice basic facts

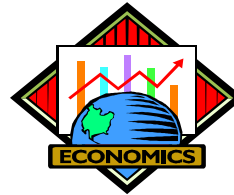
Science

Our current unit is Plant Growth and Development. In addition to growing our own Wisconsin Fast Plants, we will be studying honeybees and the pollination process.



Social Studies/ Geography

We will explore our Economics unit and focus on human, natural and capital resources and how they affect the consumer. We are also studying the geographic characteristics (physical and human-made features) of the land. We will be exploring, reading, and creating different types of maps.



Writing

We are working on developing ideas in writing, sentence structure and paragraph writing. Next up is BCR writing, which is a way to answer questions using information from the text.



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Important Dates:

- ☺ October 2: Half Day
- ☺ October 12: Open House, 9:30am-11:45am
- ☺ October 9-15: Book Fair Week.
- ☺ October 16: No School
- ☺ October 20: Field Trip to The Baltimore Museum of Industry.
- ☺ October 30: Halloween Parade, 1:45pm
- ☺ October 30: End of first marking period



Students have signed up for book talks and have begun to present them. A Book talk is a short presentation that allows them to share a book that they would like to recommend to the class. The process

