



The Second Grade Scoop!!!!

December 2010

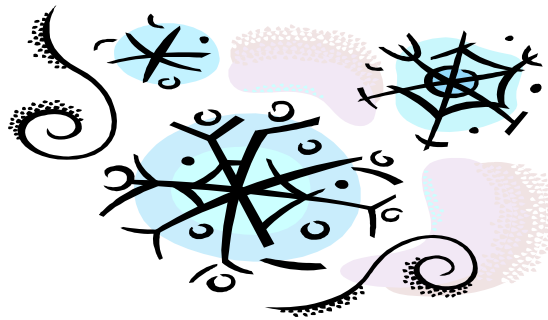
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Important Upcoming Dates:

- Dec. 3—
Speaker Brett Haber
- Dec. 10—Field trip to National Museum of the American Indian
- Dec. 13—
Interims sent home
- Dec. 24 to Dec.31—
Winter Break. No school.

Season's Greetings!!!



The second grade teachers would like to extend our heartfelt holiday wishes to all of our students and families. We are so proud of all of our students' hard work and continue to enjoy watching them grow and learn. We have been hard at work and are becoming more independent each day! Be on the lookout for a new project coming soon!

Please feel free to contact us at anytime. The best way to reach us is through email. Please allow at least 24 hours for a response.

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Important Reminders and Information

Inside this issue:

- Be sure to check your child's backpack every night for any important notices.
 - Set aside time to sit with your child o go through the take home folder.
 - Reading homework goes home every Monday and should be returned on Friday.
 - Math homework is sent home Monday and should be returned on Friday.
 - It's a good idea to mark all clothing with your child's first and last names — particularly jackets, sweaters and lunchboxes.
 - If you can not make the volunteer time you are scheduled for please let your child's teacher know as soon as possible or try to find a replacement.
- | | |
|----------------|---|
| Reading | 2 |
| Writing | 2 |
| Social Studies | 2 |

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Essential Questions:

How does knowing about characters, setting, problem and solution help me to understand the story?

How will using comprehension strategies help me to understand what I am reading?



Essential Questions:

How do geographic characteristics reflect culture?

How is history like a story?

Reading

We will continue with our study of reading for literary experience and for information. We will focus our attention to author Jan Brett. In addition, the students will be given specific questions about their stories. We will also continue reading for information where we will focus on answering questions that require a “brief constructed response” (BCR), explaining how text features help the reader, and comparing and contrasting information. This helps to deepen their understanding as they support their answers with specific examples from the story. One format that we teach is that students answer the question in their own words, give an example from the text and explain how the answer and example connect. We encourage the students to look back and reread the text to help them formulate detailed and thoughtful responses. We will then begin our study of the structure of plays and demonstrate our understanding in Reader’s Theater.

Writing

During writing, we will continue working on informational writing. We are currently writing “All About” paragraphs and books. The students have been asked to write about subjects they know all about. They are practicing:

- focusing on the facts they include
- writing paragraphs with a topic sentence, supporting details and a concluding sentence
- organizing information into sections and chapters
- developing their work so that the published draft is clear and presentable

We are now writing about the Wampanoag Native Americans, and then we will begin researching a topic we are passionate. As always, we will use the steps of the writing process (brainstorming, drafting, revising, editing and publishing) to support the students as they work to make their writing clear and interesting to the reader. As students write for information, they will answer the following questions:

- How can making a list help me to organize my writing?
- How can I make my writing clear for my reader?
- How can text features help me to represent information?
- What can I learn from other author’s to improve my writing?

Social Studies

In social studies, we will examine the Pilgrim and Native American cultures including the Wampanoag. We will discuss how life in the “New World” was for the Pilgrims and how they interacted with the Wampanoag. We finished our research on the Wampanoag with Mr. Warner in the media center. We will use that information to write to inform. We will study the Wampanoag culture through creating a mural that shows understanding of their way of life. The students will be doing research in order to create a realistic environment. We will re-enact the first meeting of the Wampanoag and the Pilgrims.