

Mrs. Kim's K-News

October 16, 2009

Dear Families,

The students and I have been meeting in small reading groups. My goal is to see all the groups within 45 minutes of the literacy center time. I will be trying my best to see all the groups.

The focus of the reading groups is different each day:

Monday: Book Introduction

Tuesday: Retelling & Comprehension (of Monday's book)

Wednesday: Writing (related to Monday's book)

Thursday: Writing rules, K-words, or chunk words

Friday: Letters, Letter sounds, or Concepts of reading

If your child brings a book in a zip lock bag, please encourage him/her to read it 5 times.

The following are the objectives the students learned in my class:

Language Arts:

Our children are trying to stretch each word to hear all the letter sounds and write the letters that they hear. The purpose is to understand the process of spelling and gain confidence in writing. If your child asks, "Can you spell ___ for me?" Please use the steps of stretching and writing the letters your child hears.

Last week, the students read Hands, Hands, Hands to review the steps the students should take to become good readers. Along the way, we learned the k-word "can." This week, they read Pumpkin, Pumpkin to retell the story in order. We also learned the k-word "like," "and" and "to." Most of the students can read the words but find it challenging to write them. Each student is practicing the k-words through reading and writing those words in mini-books in

Good readers:

1. Make a prediction before reading.
2. Take a picture walk.
3. Use pictures cues to read unknown words.
4. Look for the words we already know.
5. Read it again. Retell.

class. They store them in their reading baggies so they can pull them out and practice reading them. Those books will go home in November or after students get better at reading them.

Math:

The students have been reviewing patterns, sorting, positional words, and making graphs throughout the past two weeks .

When sorting items, good questions to ask children are “How are they sorted?” “How are they the same?” and “What other ways can you sort them?”

In class, we try to use the positional words to tell the location of things. Whenever I use the positional words, the students get very excited and let me know that I just used the positional words. Try using those words at home: “before,” “after,” “between,” “top,” “middle,” “bottom,” “below,” and “above.” We also made a book out of additional positional words that we can use. The book will be stored in the reading baggy so that your child can read and be familiarized with the spellings.

The students have been coming up with yes/no questions such as “Do you like to play soccer?” Then they would ask the question to collect data. Next, they make a graph that includes numbers and labels. Lastly, they analyze the graph by saying, “The most/least people like to play soccer” or “5 people don’t like to play soccer.”

Social Studies:

We have been talking about being respectful, fair, and trustworthy. We added “responsibility” to our list of good citizenship. 😊

We have also gotten some postcards from different places around the world. 😊

Science:

We have been using our five senses to identify the signs of fall. We also used our senses to observe and measure our pumpkins. The pumpkins were returned back to the owners on Thursday. The “Pumpkin Journal” will go home next week.

Wait! Just a little bit more...

- ❖ Online service is available for those parents who are interested in putting more money in your children’s accounts. Please email me for the student ID and pin number if you are not sure. 😊
- ❖ We will be going on our second field trip to Kingsley Outdoor Education on Monday, October 19. Thank you to Ms. Dimitriou and Ms. Behague for volunteering your time last minute! Thank you to our room parents for looking for our volunteers!

- ❖ Fridays are Mystery Reader day. Our children love our Mystery Readers! ☺ A big “thank you” to Mrs. Ruder and Ms. Behague for your participations.
- ❖ Our class is looking for more Mystery Readers. We need a Mystery Reader on October 23. That’s next Friday! We also have open slots on January 28, March 12 and 19, April 30, May 14, May 21, May 28, and June 4. You are more than welcome to be the Mystery Reader twice. ☺ Remember, your visit is a big secret! Thank you so much for your HUGE participations.
- ❖ I would like to sincerely apologize for missing last week’s K-news. There were so many things to do that K-news was the last thing on my mind. I will try to get it posted every Friday. If there are missing days, I ask for your understanding. ☺ Thank you, dear parents.

Have a wonderful weekend. ☺

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kim