



# Snowden Farm Elementary

## What's the Scoop?



### "Monthly News"

January 2026

#### Dates to Remember:

January 5 - Classes Resume

January 15- Game Night

January 19- No school for Staff  
and Students

January 26- No School for  
Students; Professional Day for  
Teachers

January 29-Spelling Bee

#### January Birthdays

We would like to say Happy  
Birthday to all of our amazing  
second graders who will celebrate  
a birthday during the month of  
January:

Happy  
Birthday

**Kerr**

Mathias- 6

Advait- 4

Praseedha- 10

Cameran- 9

#### Up Next:

**Math:** We will be finishing module 4 and beginning module 5. In Module 4, students developed addition and subtraction fluency within 100 and began developing conceptual understanding of the standard algorithm via place value strategies. In Module 5, students build upon their mastery of renaming place value units and extend their work with conceptual understanding of addition and subtraction algorithms to numbers within 1,000, always with the option of modeling with materials or drawings. Throughout the module, students continue to focus on strengthening and deepening conceptual understanding and fluency.

**Reading:** We are currently finishing our Research Unit. We will then begin Knowledge Domain 6, Cycles in Nature. Students will explore the developmental stages of the life cycle in organisms. They will also learn about how these organisms depend on the Earth's water supply and how their growth and development relate to Earth's seasonal cycles. In this domain, students will use note-taking tools to collect and synthesize information they have learned. They will work on a shared research project with their class and will practice summarizing what they have learned about the cycles of nature.

**Skills 4:** Skills 4 is devoted to introducing more spelling alternatives for vowel sounds and three tricky spellings. Remember vowel sounds and their spellings are the most challenging part of the English writing system. Only two vowel sounds are almost always spelled just one way (/a/ and /ar/).

The other seventeen vowel sounds have at least one significant spelling alternative. Several of them have many spelling alternatives.

Many opportunities are provided in this unit for review of the spelling alternatives. The specific sounds and spellings introduced for the first time in this unit are:

/er/ spelled 'er' (her), 'ur' (hurt), 'ir' (bird)

/i/ spelled 'y' (myth)

/ie/ spelled 'y' (try), 'igh' (night)

/oe/ spelled 'ow' (snow)

/ee/ spelled 'e' (me), 'y' (funny), 'ey' (key)

/aw/ spelled 'al' (wall)

The following tricky spellings are taught in this unit:

'e' can be pronounced /e/ (pet) or /ee/ (me)

'i' can be pronounced /i/ (it) or /ie/ (biting)

'y' can be pronounced /ee/ (funny), /i/ (myth),

/ie/ (try), or /y/ (yes)

### Grammar

The grammar lessons for Unit 4 review singular and regular plural nouns, as well as common and proper nouns. In addition, the formation of irregular plurals, the use of apostrophe-'s' with nouns to indicate possession, and the use of titles, such as Mr., Mrs., Ms., and Miss, as a part of proper nouns are all introduced. Students will continue to work with verbs, reviewing action verbs, learning about to be verbs, and working with verb tenses. Synonyms, antonyms, contractions, and quotations are also reviewed.

### Writing

The writing strand continues with students learning about persuasive communication, specifically how to incorporate persuasive writing as part of a friendly letter.

**Social Studies:** The Social Studies Unit for Marking Period 2 is complete. Please stay tuned for our February newsletter to receive the upcoming Social Studies lessons for Marking Period 3.

**Science:** Students begin the unit by exploring landforms. Students then develop a deeper

understanding of water bodies on Earth through analysis of multiple sources. Students design their own island that includes seven landform or water features, and draw a two dimensional model with labels. Students explore changes to the Earth's surface, and use a variety of print sources to make a claim as to whether Earth events occur quickly or slowly. They extend this understanding of different rates of change to Earth's surface through an investigation of earthquakes. As a culminating activity, students will create a model of a structure that is able to block a house from wind.

We need materials to help us build this month! If you have any of the supplies below please send them in with your child by **Wednesday Jan. 14th!**



### Harmony:

This month we will focus on breaking stereotypes and creating welcoming environments. We will also discuss empathy and caring for others' feelings, and how we can encourage others when presented in unfair situations.

## **Classroom Announcements:**

- Please make sure your child has warm clothing/coat for recess. We will be going outside!
- Please check your child's Thursday folder for their papers.

-Please make sure to send in a note or email when there is any change in dismissal.

**Classroom donations:** We will welcome indoor recess games, pencils, clorox wipes and tissues. Thank you in advance for your support!