



SECOND GRADE WEEKLY PLANS
DECEMBER 5, 2016

TEACHER: MRS. MARTIN
SECOND GRADE ASSISTANT: MRS. DOYLE

Virtues for December: Generosity and Service
Saying: Two heads are better than one.

Read Aloud: Lots of Greek myths!

Hello Parents,

Ms. Paulson: I have neglected to tell you about an intern that has been volunteering in the Lower School since November 8th. Jessie was working as an Interpretive Ranger in Franconia this past summer and has a degree in Wildlife Biology from Colorado State University. She helps out in several classrooms on Tues., Wed., and Thurs. and is with us for about five hours per week. She will finish up next Thursday; it has been nice having an extra pair of hands in the room and the children have been enjoying their relationship with her.

Language Arts: This week's Open Court selection is The Story of the Three Whales. If you were around in 1988, you may remember the ordeal of the whales that got stuck in a bay near Barrow, Alaska. I am also supplementing the reading we are doing with a few other service/generosity stories. You already saw Uncle Willie and the Soup Kitchen come home. In school we will read, The Trees of the Dancing Goats by Patricia Polacco, Moishe's Miracle: A Hanukkah Story by Laurel Melmed, and The Lady in the Box by Ann McGovern. Recent grammar lessons have included the use of prefixes and suffixes. This week we will be practicing the various ways to show past tense in verbs. The standard "add ed" (walked), the variant "add just a d because there is already an e there" (hoped), and "double the last letter to keep silent e from jumping over" (hopped). Later in the year we'll practice the irregular past tense verbs such as ran, ate, slept, etc.

Math: As part of our math program's introduction to symmetry, we will make paper-cut snowflakes to hang in the windows. To get us in the mood for the activity, I will read Snowflake Bentley by Jacqueline Martin. This is a story about an enterprising Vermonter who, in the late 1800s, perfected the art of photographing ice crystals using a special camera that could magnify the images. Though ridiculed at the time, Wilson Bentley used perseverance and a strong belief in service to others to eventually achieve worldwide acclaim for his work. I'd like to say that, though most children create octagonal snowflake designs because the folding is so much easier, our creations will be true to naturally formed snowflakes which are hexagonal in shape. Folding a circle into sixths is always a math lesson in itself.

History: Your children are working diligently on summaries describing characters from Greek mythology. This week we will also read The Trojan Horse by Emily Little and do some related activities.

Science: Next week, as we finish up our unit on the digestive system, Mrs. Barth will come in to do a lesson on nutrition. They will learn about the six essential nutrients which are carbohydrates, protein, fat, vitamins, minerals and water.

Spanish from Señora Harris: The second graders practiced community words and made beautiful quilt squares to reflect these vocabulary words and feelings. Vocabulary included: amigo/a, amistad, comunidad, respeto, amable, mentes fuertes/corazones amazbles. Our K-3 "Edredòn de la Comunidad" is hanging up at school. It looks so nice! Students also learned family words through games, partner interviews, and art. Each student interviewed a friend and recorded information about his/her family. They then drew and labeled individual family pictures. Family vocabulary included: mamá/madre, papá/padre, hermano/a, abuelo/a, tío/a, primo/a.

Upcoming events:

Thursday, Dec. 8th – Parent Portal Open for report viewing

Friday, Dec. 9th - Half Day 12:30 dismissal - I still have some open times for conferences.

Wednesday, Dec. 14th - Holiday Concert

Friday, Dec. 16th - Class Party for children (grab bag gift day)

Regards,
Marj