



SECOND GRADE WEEKLY PLANS

JANUARY 9, 2017

Virtues for January: Courage
Saying: Turn over a new leaf.

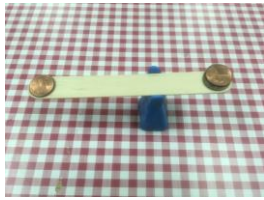
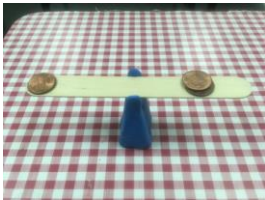
TEACHER: MRS. MARTIN

ASSISTANT: MRS. SMITH

Read Aloud: "Brady" by Jean Fritz

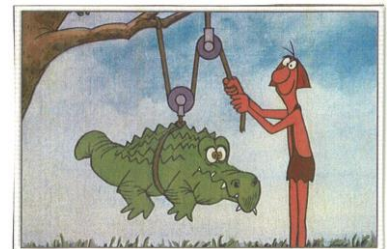
Dear Parents,

Reading: Our second story in the unit on courage is "Molly the Brave and Me". It is an example of realistic fiction written in the first person perspective. The title, however, is **not** an example of good grammar; we'll talk about it. The spelling list they will receive this Thursday consists of words containing the long e sound. Between lessons 16 and 17, this sound is spelled with an e, ee, ea, eo, e_e, and y. Learning the various spellings for the vowel sounds is challenging. On Thursday, I will be sending home a sheet with helpful hints. If your child has a work station, this should be kept there. Also, please remind your child that workbook pages and the associated writing assignment is always to be done by Wednesdays.



Science: This week we will continue to study simple machines, moving from the concrete to the more abstract. Last Friday, the children made penny see-saws and learned that to balance two pennies with one penny, you had to move the 2 pennies closer to the fulcrum in one of two ways.

In addition to experimenting with inclined planes, wheels, pulleys, levers, wedges, and screws, every few days we will watch a 15 minute segment of an instructional video on simple machines. Though it features a cartoon prehistoric man who lifts and moves a variety of peculiar objects, the concepts are pretty sophisticated. Children who already have a basic understanding of simple machines are provided with plenty of grist for the mill; they will be introduced to the basic principles of mechanical advantage, transfer of energy and the rate at which energy is transferred (power), and agents that exert force such as gravity and friction which can increase or decrease kinetic energy. Do not expect them to be able to articulate this information to you. The first step toward understanding is exposure! They will also have some experience working on an invention app, called Pettson's Inventions on our school iPads this week.



Math: Our current units are on length, mass, and volume using the metric system.

History: We have covered the information on Dr. MLK Jr, and the Jim Crow laws. We are working on a short presentation for the school-wide assembly on Friday. Today they learned about Jackie Robinson and PeeWee Reese and, later this week, about the courage that a six-year old Ruby Bridges showed when she was asked to attend first grade in an all-white Louisiana elementary school. I have a wonderful movie produced by Disney (not animated) chronicling Ruby's experience. We will see it over the course of two days because I like to stop from time to time to share thoughts and answer questions.

Friday, January 13: MLK Jr. Assembly – 8:15

Monday and Tuesday, January 16 and 17 : No School

Stay warm!

Marj