



Third Grade Weekly Plans

March 13, 2017

**TEACHER: Ms. Verheeck
ASSISTANT: Mrs. Smith**

Virtue: Honesty

Psalms:

Saying: Cold Shoulder

Chapter Book: Island of the Blue Dolphins

Dear Parents,

What crazy weather we've been having! It seems as though March is unsure of whether to go in like a lion or a lamb. I've been keeping a close eye on the weather this weekend and I'd like to remind your children to dress for the weather! They've been rather upset that I've been making them wear a coat to recess after we had a few warm days. We do stay outside as long as it's above 10 degrees in the morning. Therefore, appropriate dress is much appreciated. While we are on the topic of dress, I'd like to remind you about the upcoming **March Madness themes**. On **March 15th**, we will have Team Spirit Day (any kind of team!) followed by, **March 22-** Favorite Decade (third graders will need help from parents) and **March 29-** Twin Day (dress the same as a friend or group of friends.) We hope that your children have fun dressing up!

This week, we will have a special guest on Thursday morning. Michael Caduto, a Native American storyteller will be presenting to the third and fourth graders. This participatory program will include storytelling, music, dance, discussion, and activities! I would like to thank the Parent Association for sponsoring this program for us!

The third graders were very busy last week! As some of you may have heard we've been weaving, making dream catchers, and sand art to go along with our history unit. Well, on Thursday, Theresa Westgate came in for Ailia's birthday and we made rain sticks. I would like to thank Theresa for supplying materials and her time. The students had such big smiles on their faces! We ended the week watching our kindergarten, first grade, and second grade friends perform at the Performance Assembly, but little did the students know, they had another surprise in store. We just finished reading, *Alice in Wonderland*, therefore, Trish and I hosted a tea party for the kids on Friday afternoon. When the students returned from PE, the room was transformed and there were special guests awaiting their arrival. I would like to thank Mrs. Smith, Mr. Nichols, and Mr. Quigley for all their help! I wouldn't have been able to do it without them!

Please note that this Tuesday, March 14th, I will have to cancel TAG. I have a tax appointment that evening. I apologize for the inconvenience! Have a great week!

Sincerely,
Heather Verheeck

Curriculum this Week:

Each week I will share the curriculum that is covered. This will allow you to know the various units and content that we will study.

Reading: We will continue reading *Island of the Blue Dolphins*. The students will continue responding in their literature journals and work in literature circles.

Language Arts: We will begin this week with “Sacred Writing Time” and then finish our 3D hamburger projects. (Focus: topic sentence and concluding sentences that relate with at least three strong supporting details in the middle.) Once they are finished with that, we will do a creative writing project about dream catchers. In grammar, we will continue exploring the topic of how to begin a sentence with a “how.” The objective is to have the students “dig deeper” and create more meaningful sentences.

Spelling: This week the students will work off of two lists.

The green list: Lesson 20: “Long -u Patterns in Accented Syllables”

rooster, include, Tuesday, reduce, balloon, useful, cartoon, doodle, fewer, jewel, refuse, raccoon, toothache, excuse, noodle, beauty, shampoo, pollute, chewy, scooter, confuse, cocoon, cougar, amuse

The blue list: Lesson 20: “Vowel Alternation: Long to Short or Schwa”

volcano, volcanic, compose, composition, conspire, admire, custodian, competition, serene, divine, conspiracy, custody, compete, admiration, invitation, define, serenity, divinity, invite, opposition, definition, reside, oppose, resident

BONUS: favorite, Cherokee, leprechaun

Math: Fractions! This week we will continue working with fractions. On Friday, we started math centers and we will finish them on Monday. We will spend a couple of days reviewing some of the concepts that were “tough” and I will provide others with challenge problems until we are ready to assess. Based on how the review goes, the assessment will take place Thursday.

Geography: Regions!

History: This week we will continue working on our weaving projects and clay pots. We will make corn husk dolls after reading a story about them. As a follow up activity, we will begin learning and creating a rain dance that will be accompanied by our rain sticks. We will then focus on the Native Americans of the Northwest and create totem poles. I encourage your child to listen closely to the types of shelters the tribes lived in because at the end of the unit the students will be given materials and asked to create a shelter for the tribe they are assigned. They will be paired up and asked to make one of the following: Hogan, tepee, longhouse, chickee, or an adobe pueblo.

Science: We will continue our journey through sound this week!

A Week in Photos



An "Alice in Wonderland Tea Party!"



Rain Sticks



Thank you, Mrs. Westgate!