



SECOND GRADE WEEKLY PLANS
MARCH 6, 2017

TEACHER: MRS. MARTIN
ASSISTANT: MRS. SMITH

Virtue for March: Honesty
Saying: Practice what you preach.

Read Aloud: The City Under the Back Steps

Dear Parents,

Language Arts: Thank you to all of those you read and talked about "The Red Balloon" with your child last Thursday. I decided to have our Shared Inquiry Discussion on Monday since I had four absentees on Friday. We first formed a big circle with our chairs and went over some rules for this format. I will be teaching them how to have a large group discussion by using words and body language to yield for other speakers rather than the raising of hands. This format promotes more conversation between students. Second graders are just taking a first step in learning how to facilitate the exchange of ideas in this way. The program is being used by grades 2-5 and will benefit Crossroads students; additionally, many secondary schools use similar methods such as Socratic seminars and the use of Harkness tables. This Thursday your child will be asked to reread "The Other Side of the Hill" which is a quirky little "the grass is always greener"/ "there's no place like home" type of story generally enjoyed by second graders. In spelling this week, the test will be on the final column of words on the big list. On Thursday, we will send home the new list of words, the workbook and "Write to the Point" assignment. The test book comes home for your signature as well.

Science: Yesterday and today we spent our time reading and writing a narrative about our chosen species of insect from the first person point of view. I started off the process with a mini-lesson on creating an interesting lead that can "hook" your audience. After providing examples, I asked the children to choose one of the following: 1. Ask a question. 2. Create a riddle. 3. Make a BOLD statement that can be an opinion. 4. Start with a sound effect. 5. Tell a personal story. 6. Start with an amazing fact. I hope that you are able to recognize their choice when you hear their presentations on Friday. Also, for those of you have asked, yes, I am attempting to create 16 costumes in school with your children before Friday. Wish me luck!

We will continue working on the math chapter on money and the unit on the Civil War but these blocks of time will be abbreviated during this busy week!

Other notes:

- Wednesday is "dress down" day. This is part of Middle School's "March Madness." If your child prefers, it can be a regular spirit gear day. That's my plan.
- **This Friday, March 10th is our performance assembly in Bancroft at 8:15. We will be presenting a special insect show during which each child will speak. We will also sing two songs from the Civil War era.**
- On Friday, March 24th we have a 12:30 dismissal, Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart, and parent-teacher conferences.

Warm regards,
Marj