Fantastic First Graders



<u>Reading</u> This week our focus stories are <u>A Musical</u> <u>Day & Drums.</u>

Genre Realistic Fiction & Informational

Target skill Sequence of events

<u>Grammar</u> Statements: We have been working hard on the five things that make a good statement.

- 1. Subject 2. Predicate 3. It makes sense 4. Capitals
- 5. Punctuation

Vocabulary Strategies Define Words

<u>Spelling</u> This week we will review the short vowel, o. (short o sound) We are tapping out words, building words, doing word sorts, unscrambling sentences and finding words that include short o in our daily readings. We also play spelling sparkle & spelling battleship!

<u>Spelling words this week</u>: on, pop, got, not, fox, hop

Our challenge words are: chopstick, mopping, teapot

<u>High Frequency Words (sight/trick words</u>): her, she, now, today, our, would

*I am also in the process of re-testing the kids to see what reading level they are at now. You will notice that your child's baggy book levels will change to reflect it.

<u>Math</u> We continue learning to add and subtract, and my goal is for the kids to know several different ways to come up with their answers. I always ask the kids how they got the answer and to explain the process to me. This is great to develop their higher order thinking skills.

This week we focus on related addition and subtraction. For example, if 3+2=5 then 5-3=2. The idea is to find similarities between the number sentences.

We'll also solve, finding the sum or difference to decide if the addition and subtraction sentences are true or false. LOTS OF CRITICAL THINKING!

<u>Science</u>- Last week, we worked on Living and Non-living and started the science inquiry process by looking at mealworms and rocks and classifying. We will start

investigating and applying our knowledge about living and non-living and matter to vibrating matter (sounds). We have a fun STEM activity planned where the kids get to create their own instrument.

Upcoming Experts

Sept. 13 Johnny Appleseed - Kaden

Oct. 12 Spiders - Nick Oct. Ba18ts — Liam

Oct. 25 Pumpkins - Presley

*All of the information on becoming an expert is posted on my website with details. If you have further questions, let me know.

<u>Coding</u> First grade is so excited! We realize that computer science is the present and future for our kids. First grade is going to introduce coding to students this year by teaching the kids to do simple coding with color lines using a little robot called Ozobot. I was one of the first teachers trained on how to use it (and I actually purchased one for my son). I am going to introduce Ozobot to the students with various lessons next week. I will send pictures! I can't wait...the kids are going to love Ozobot!

Important Dates to Remember

Sept. 13 - PTO meeting - park 5:30 pm

Sept. 14 – Lockdown drill Sept. 15-22 – Book Fair

Sept. 17 – book order due

Sept. 20 - Student Council Spirit Week - see below

Sept. 24 – Grading Period ends Sept. 27- Sept. 11 – Fall Intersession

Have a great week!

~Mrs. Wendy Dafoe~ dafoe.wendy@cusd80.com 480.224.3400 ext 3447

Classroom Website

www.mychandlerschools.org/dafoe

Spirit Week: Sept. 20-24

Monday - College Day Tuesday - Disney Day

Wednesday - Wacky Wednesday

Thursday - Futuristic Day

Friday - Riggs Day

Sept. 17- Jackson

Sept. 19 - Aria

Sept. 23 - Presley

Sept. 27 - Alhan

"Don't tell them how to do it, show them how to do it and don't say a word. If you tell them, they'll watch your lips move. If you show them, they'll want to do it themselves."

~Maria Montessori