

1/27/17

## The Reading Corner...

Students have been working hard practicing their reading skills this week. We have been reading articles from the *Storyworks* magazine and analyzing the text features. We have grown our ideas to question how the text features support the big idea and how they convey meaning. Students have also analyzed the nonfiction articles to determine the main idea and supporting details. It is great to see them applying the knowledge we have been doing in readers and writers' workshop. In addition, students have started to determine statements of fact versus statements of opinion and learning how authors' use both to convey information and ideas.

## Writers Workshop...

Students are doing a fantastic job in writers' workshop. They are gaining independence with their writing skills and techniques. This week we used quotations to accentuate a central idea. In addition, students learned how to draft their introductions and conclusions and how both paragraphs should be carefully crafted to explain the big picture. Many writers' asked themselves, "What am I trying to teach my readers?" Students have made great progress!

## In Math This Week...

Our little mathematicians are doing a wonderful job persevering through complex division problems. We have been working with real world problems and how to interpret remainders. Using their visualizing skills, the students are able to picture themselves in the problem to figure out what to do with what is left over. It's not easy, but they are loving the challenge! They especially love discussing the problem with their group members!

We have also been practicing new multiplication and division fact practice games. They are encouraged to teach someone at home the new games they learn!

## Important Dates and Reminders

- We are in need of more wipes for our classroom. Any donations would be greatly appreciated!
- Please ask your 4<sup>th</sup> grader how their supply of pencils are. Students and teachers are running out of pencils!
- World Animal Tour Friday March 3<sup>rd</sup>! More information to come next week!
- Please see student progress on the "Finding the Main Idea" page,

## In Social Studies and Science This Week...

In Social Studies we are beginning to look at all the wonderful Scrapbook Pages that have come in. The kiddos love sharing what they learned with their classmates

In Science we continue to learn about different animals of the world. Next week we will be discussing the adaptation of camouflage by create our own camouflage butterflies around the classroom. Maybe you will be able to find some of our butterflies when you come to conferences in March!

## Conversations Starters

1. Teach someone at home how to play heads up math facts. All you need is a deck of cards.
2. If you were a wild animal, what type of habitat would you want to live in and why?
3. How can I log into Pearson to track my progress?
4. How does our biography unit match the author's purpose for the animal report?