

3rd Grade News - February 2017

Reading

Understanding how to read Non Fiction texts is a vital skill that children must learn. We have spent many weeks diving deep into Non Fiction Informational texts. We have practiced how to navigate Tables of Contents, headings, text features (charts, images), captions, glossaries and indexes. As we read, we are always looking to discover the text's main ideas and supporting details.

We are currently reading Narrative Non Fiction (Information texts told as stories. Example: a story of life in colonial times). Ask your child to tell you about their current reading book.

Writing

This month, students have been writing Persuasive Essays (Opinion pieces). They have worked to convince others about problems/ solutions and important people/places/things that others should know about. We learned how to state our opinions through Thesis Statements and then prove our points using detail paragraphs.

Math

Our third graders have become multiplication experts over the past two months. They've learned and practice a number of multiplication strategies including drawing a representation, counting equal groups, skip counting on a number line and creating an array. **Please work with your child to memorize their multiplication facts up to 10x10.**

We have also worked on measuring the Area and Perimeter of different geometric shapes, with a focus on rectangles and squares.

Science

Students now understand how Simple Machines help people to do work or move objects easier. These machines include pulleys, levers, wheels/axles, inclined planes, wedges and screws. We experimented with these helpful tools in our third-floor science lab.

After learning about Simple Machines, we moved on to Compound Machines (two or more simple machines). Ask your children to explain how each type of machine works.

Social Studies

Your third-grader is now a geographer! They now know all about land features (mountains, rivers, lakes, oceans), map types, map keys/scales, cardinal directions, natural resources and land modification.

We know a lot about world cultures, especially China. Our trip to the Museum of Natural History was a fun and informative way to see Chinese culture firsthand. Later this year, we will learn about other countries including Nigeria, Peru and Egypt.

Notes from the teacher:

Make sure your child reads a just right book every night for 20 minutes and records it in his/her reading log. Please sign their reading log.

Important Date:

February 1 (Wed): Field trip to the NY Hall of Science in Queens

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