



# Kindergarten Newsletter

## Important Reminders

**January 1st: SCHOOL CLOSED! New Year's Day**

**January 2nd: Return to school after winter break**

**January 15th: SCHOOL CLOSED! Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

**January 18th: Parent Workshop 6:00pm on ZOOM: Social Emotional Support**

## Teachers College Phonics

Consonants: Kk, Gg, Ww, Xx

Vowels: Short Ee

At the start of this unit students will gain a new super power; Vowel Power! They will be introduced to new high frequency words. At the end of this unit, students will study vowels in words and learn how knowledge of CVC words are foundational to writing any words they choose.

## Sight Words

to, do, friend, we, be, dog, got, was, went

## Leader In Me

During **Leader in Me** we will begin to focus on the fourth habit; think win-win, everybody can win! The children will be able to problem solve when an issue comes up with another person, think about what other people want, be kind to others, and try to think of ways to help everyone be happy. The children how to apply this habit into their daily lives. The book of the month is The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister.

## Teachers College Readers Workshop

As we go into January, we will be continuing with our third reading unit. This unit is called *Superpowers*. Students will use reading super powers (strategies) to help them read books...

Pointer Power to point to each word

Reread Power to re-read sentences to see what makes sense

Partner Power to help out our friends

Picture Power to follow along and look at the pictures

Snap Word Power to find familiar snap words we know

Sound Power to sound out the letters in the unfamiliar words

Persistence Power to not give up and keep trying

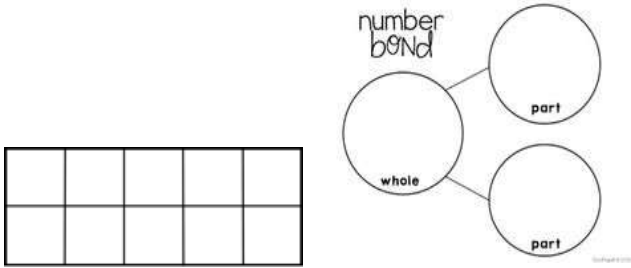
Book Talk Power to talk about the book to better understand what happened in the story

## Teachers College Writers Workshop

We will begin our next writing unit, called How-to-Books. Writers not only use writing to tell stories, but they also use writing to teach others how to do stuff. Children will be writing all about things they know (how to make chocolate milk, how to ride a bike, etc.) This will be a great unit for us to really get to know each student even more and find out about the things that they really like to do. Students will also be encouraged to work with their writing partners and participate in "collaborative conversations." We will encourage students to write new books each and every day. They will continue to try their best to stretch out words and write down as many sounds as they can hear. We will also continue to encourage our students to use more and more details in their pictures.

## Math

As we return from break, we will be diving into our next Math module. The students will begin exploring addition and subtraction within 10. Students will begin to make sure of their counting abilities and knowledge of the value of numbers to solve addition and subtraction problems. The students will learn how a number bond and a ten frame could be used to solve addition and subtraction problems, and will be able to decide which strategy works for them.



## Social Studies/Science

This month in social studies, students will be learning about what makes a community. They will learn what a neighborhood is and who lives there. They will also learn about the features of a community and rules and routines that are important in a community.

Scientists will learn about the life cycle of monarchs and their migration to new habitats. Scientists will read *Investigating Monarchs* to learn about scientists who study monarchs. In the book, they are introduced to the idea that humans, like plants and other animals, need certain things from the natural world. Scientists learn that an unintended consequence of humans cultivating wild areas for their own needs is that the habitats of other living things are changed. Scientists relate what they learned from the book to the scenario in the Garden, and then help construct a new plan for the Garden that provides a place for vegetables for humans to eat and a place for milkweed plants for monarch caterpillars to eat. The purpose of this chapter is for students to learn that humans can make choices so that all living things can get what they need to live and grow. Check out the books at [learning.amplify.com](http://learning.amplify.com). User ID & PW is the same: ampsci123.

## Home Connection

**Magazine Words:** Give your child a sight word they are learning. Have them search for words in a magazine. They should highlight or circle it with a marker when they've found it. Challenge them to count how many times they find it.

**Sock Game:** Write the letters of the alphabet on index cards. Place the cards down on the floor. Have your child stand in their socks. Call out a letter and see how quickly they can step on it. To make sure this more of a challenge, try saying the sounds of the letters instead or say a word such as "dolphin" and ask them to step on the letter it begins with.

**Snack time addition:** When your child is eating a snack such as goldfish, cheerios, popcorn, etc. Ask them to make two piles of their snack and count how many are in each group. Then, ask them to put the two piles together to see how many there are in all. Verbalize the addition problem they just did, such as  $3+2=5$ .