

Thornton/Yelle Newsletter

10/13/17

The Reading Corner...

Through our classroom read aloud, Tiger Rising students are learning break down stories and find their literary elements by mapping them onto a story mountain to help build our comprehension skills. Students have done a fantastic job identifying the problem, rising action, climax and resolution. We are using the story mountain in reading, and the story arc in writers' workshop, to understand more reading/writing connections. Students are beginning to understand how stories have certain elements and structures that qualify them as a literary piece.

Writers Workshop...

We are continuing our realistic fiction unit in writer's workshop. Students have learned that the goal of the unit is to write a realistic fiction story that begins with a small moment and has fictional elements. Students have already started identifying small moments in their own lives that are full of emotion, and contain some sort of struggle. This will help them create entertaining stories, with complex characters. In addition, we have reviewed the main elements of our realistic fiction stories on the story arc. Students are discussing with writing partners how their small moment can build on their story arc. This discussion was great and helped them practice with plot development.

In Math This Week...

Our little mathematicians have started working on rounding multi-digit numbers this week. Using number lines to round numbers is a tricky task, but the kiddos are working hard to meet the challenge. Our 4th graders have done a great job using their math brains to place multi-digit numbers on a number line. We will continue to practice this skill next week. The kids are doing a great job on their weekly Fact Frenzy and are showing lots of growth, keep up the fact practice! Next week the kids will bring home their Math Binders on Thursday night for you to see all of the great work they are doing! Please make sure the Binders come back to school on Friday we will need them!

Important Dates and Reminders

Halloween is October 31st

Be on the lookout for midterm check in emails next week from Ms. Brennan and Ms. Yelle.

NEXT MONTH...

November 10 – No School – Veteran's Day

November 17th – Report Cards

November 20th – Half Day – Afternoon Conferences

November 21st – Half Day – Evening Conferences

November 22 – Half Day – Thanksgiving Early Release

November 23,24 – No School – Thanksgiving

In Social Studies This Week...

In Social Studies, we created monsters out of all of the states in the Northeast. Every student created a monster profile using information they researched about the Northeast Region. Then they built a monster with the shapes of the Northeast states and decorated their monster with different items the Northeast is famous for. All the kids did a great job creating their monster profiles and the monsters look fantastic! Next week the kids will start a Scrapbook Page on a topic related to the region. This will be done at home and in school. Please keep an eye out for the at-home requirements.

Conversations Starters

1. Counting by tens and hundreds is a great way for the kids to practice number lines and rounding. Start with a big number, such as 34,200, and count by tens. Try another number and count by hundreds. Thousands?
2. What information about the Northeast is in your monster profile?
3. What is a small moment?
4. What do all realistic fiction stories have in common?