



February News from First Grade Language Concepts



This month in reading we are reviewing the digraphs /sh/ and /ch/ and introducing the qu /kw/ and wh /hw/ digraph. The children are doing a nice job hearing the difference between these digraphs and using them to make and complete words. We are also working on reading words that contain r-controlled vowels. For example, car and star. We like to refer to the "r" as the bossy r! We will also review initial "l" blends like "flag." The children are also learning to add an "s" at the end of a word to represent more than one, such as dog and dogs as well as when we need to use "es" on the end of a word.

We are continuing to develop comprehension skills when reading. This month we will be discussing what the setting of a story is. We continue to work on retelling and identifying the characters and genre of a story.



In writing, we are working on remembering to use a capital letter when writing a proper name as well as beginning a sentence with a capital and ending with the correct punctuation. The children are gaining more confidence as writers and throughout the next quarter I hope to see the children be more independent during Writers Workshop.

At this point in the year, we are working on fostering increased independence in several areas, such as being responsible for their belongings and not wasting time during transitions, listening and following directions to complete class work independently, and making good choices.



Our Theme in the classroom this month is Hearts, Love & Valentine's Day! We will be reading many books to go along with our theme, including one of our favorites "The Biggest Valentine Ever." The children will complete a multi-step art project to work on following directions and to continue to develop age appropriate fine motor skills.

As you know February and March are PARP months. In March, we will be having the very popular Library Night. Our class has chosen the book we will be representing for the window scavenger hunt and will be working on it throughout the month of February. Come on out for a fun night with your children and get a chance to see their creativity through the classroom window displays!



In Math, we have just completed Chapter 8. We will begin Chapter 11 this week. Chapter 11 will focus on recognizing coins, counting various amounts of money, problem solving using money, and representing an amount two different ways. We will continue to review skip counting by 2's, 5's and 10's. A good way to support your child at home is to have them practice counting with real coins! A fun activity might be to set up a little store and have them purchase items and count out the correct amount of money to "buy" the item! Counting money is a tricky skill to learn, any amount of practice will help your child be confident and successful when demonstrating the skills taught in this chapter.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION:
Winter Recess - 2/15 - 2/19

