

Mrs. Matthews' Class

October 27, 2016

Important Dates:

October 28- Fall Parties

November 3- Firefighter Phil Program for K-2

November 4- Movie Night

November 9-Extended Early Release 2:30 Dismissal

November 19- Mother/Son Activity

Writing:

We began our nonfiction writing unit this week with a pre assessment to measure everything the kids know about informative writing. Students worked very hard showing me what they already know about this genre of writing! Then, we began learning how to write like a scientist! We learned the scientific process and how a science lab is organized. We began our own science experiment and recorded our question, hypothesis, materials, procedures, observations/data, and conclusions like a scientist! Then, students were grouped to develop their own experiments using the same materials, a meter stick, a toy car, a measuring tape, and anything they could find around the room! Next week, we'll continue writing like scientists!

Reading: In reading this week, we wrapped up our character study from before fall break! We reviewed identifying character traits from our mentor text, The BFG, and found evidence of these traits with dialogue, action and thoughts of the character in the story. We then used emoji's to describe how our characters were feeling in the text and how these emotions changed as we continued to read!

In small group this week, we used the same text that we've been using for a few weeks to choose a character to analyze. We identified two of their character traits and found SPECIFIC evidence in the text in the form of dialogue, actions and thoughts. We practiced identifying when some traits couldn't really be supported with solid evidence! This is preparing us for using the RACE strategy soon (Restate, Answer, Cite, and Extend) to support our 'writing about reading' responses.

The class reading interest inventory interviews are complete and students have been grouped by the genre they love most! Next week, students will learn how to write book recommendation! We have a s'more/fire where groups are identified by interest and where they can look at/review recommended books in their preferred genre!

VISITOR INFORMATION

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PBL: In PBL this week we continued our 'community in the past' unit after visiting Conner Prairie. We learned about wants and needs in past in the Midwest and we collaborated to 'pack' a virtual wagon, not exceeding 2,400 lbs to make the 5-month trip on the Organ Trail across the country. Then, we jumped right into our election unit! We identified the qualities/traits of a good leader, choose story book characters that would make good leaders and identified evidence to support that. Then, we campaigned and voted on two candy bars in a popular vote, and then all of second grade groups were assigned different states to represent the electoral vote. We will see our winner on MONDAY! Each bar represented the two parties in color! 2nd grade is preparing to host a school-wide Presidential election on Election Day!

3rd Grade Math: In math this week, we reviewed the unit 3 skills and then took our unit 3 assessment! Test corrections were due sometime this week! We started unit 4 off with a short skill building unit on tricks for learning our multiplication facts. We are learning and recording several tricks and identifying patterns in products on a X chart! We also took a few X timed tests just over the numbers/tricks we worked on this week!







