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3rd Grade: Curriculum Newsletter November 15

Denise Montgomery • 3 months ago • Tuesday, Nov 16 at 7:00 AM • **3rd Grade - Denise**

Hello, Everyone!

Each day more and more kids leave and come back.....vaccinated! It is an interesting time to be alive, and hoping we will all be able to take our masks off-- at least when outside-- soon!

Today we had a discussion about the meaning of Thanksgiving. First kids were asked, "How do you feel about Thanksgiving? What is good about it for you? Then they were asked, "How do you think indigenous folks feel about Thanksgiving? How can we show respect and care during this time? **Ask your kid how they feel about this, and what you might do as a family to show activism.** We'll continue to discuss and learn more throughout this week.

Here is what we've been up to:

Literacy

We finished our book **Wishtree**, and had a great discussion about how the community rallied in the story to show support of one of its members. It is such a sweet story-- who would think a book from the perspective of a tree would be so interesting! We also did some writing about how we might help to make someone feel welcome, and/or how we relate to the story.

We're plugging away on Foundations work, and have learned the rule for when to double a consonant when adding a suffix (such as turning 'hop' into 'hopping'), and when to add s at the end of a word, versus 'es'. **Ask your kid about these rules and see if YOU know them! :-)**

In **cursive** we're now starting to practice rounding letters such as o, c, d, g and q. **Ask your kid what 2 o'clock has to do with these letters!**

Math

This week was fun in math, as we are beginning to explore **area** through **arrays**, and are learning how to find the area of squares and rectangles by **multiplying**. Kids made their own arrays outside with natural materials (see photos from my "Quick Update" from yesterday, and labeled the dimensions before writing multiplication equations that matched.

We've also ventured upon graphing, and learned today how to turn data into a picture graph, and then a bar graph. Kids took a vote on flavors of ice cream, and learned that one image can represent more than one person.

California Research Projects

Kids are starting to finish their research and are well into their visuals by now. **Ask your kid where they are in this process.** Just about every day we work in class to find facts, write them in our own words, and put them onto our visuals. **We will plan to begin presentations at the end of this week, and will finish these up the first week after Thanksgiving.**

Story Plays

Today we discussed **conflict** in stories, and each pair wrote their main conflict into their summary. **Ask your kid what's the latest on their story play, and what is the main conflict!** Thanks to awesome volunteers who have been coming in and helping. It feels great to see you helping the kids. :-)

That's it for now! Thanks for reading-- hope you all have a wonderful rest of your week.

Best,
Denise