



# October

Waite Park  
Community School  
Room 104

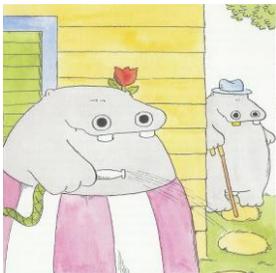
October 2016

## Ms. Monson's Classroom Newsletter

### Reading

We've completed our first reading unit, which is designed to help your student build independence as a reader and writer. Your student is developing good habits for reading, writing, listening and speaking. Not only are we reading a variety of books, we are delving deeply into what's happening in the beginning, middle and ending of stories.

We are learning how to take care of books, choose books, and build reading stamina in our reader's workshop. We are learning to work independently and with others as we create our Room 104 community of readers.



We compared and contrasted this fictional story by James Marshall with a non-fiction piece about hipopotamuses.



We've also started guided reading groups.

### Writing

In writer's workshop we are learning rituals and routines, building writing stamina, and writing about personal life experiences. Skills in oral and written language are developed as your student becomes an author who composes and conveys messages. Our most recent project has been "small moments" stories. We have been very successful with these short narratives. We continue our consistent writing in daily journals.

### Math

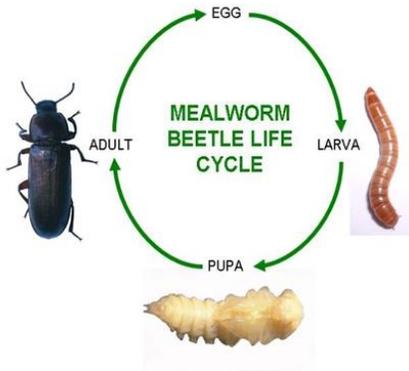
We are solving basic facts to 20 with counting strategies. We represent numbers to 100 as groups of tens and ones in multiple ways. We also solve addition and subtraction problems (using multiple strategies) by composing and decomposing numbers and jumping in groups of tens. We are reviewing skip counting and building upon their knowledge of repeating patterns.

### Social Studies

In our first unit, Civic Skills, we are discussing rules and laws and differentiating between rights and responsibilities. We are also studying the characteristics of a fair vote. We will continue to add new words to our "Word Wall" in all subject areas.

## Science

During our Life Cycles unit, we have been studying mealworms and waxworms. After the insect has been introduced, your student has observed structures and behaviors, discussed findings, and asked questions. Like good scientists, we write and sketch our observations. We have observed the life cycles of these insects.



## Reminders

Send in coins for Waite Park! We have been collecting money each day as our contribution to the many special programs of our school.



Thanks for all of the supplies you have sent to school with your child!

## 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Specialist Schedule

2:30-3:25

**Monday**

Media with Ms. McEathron

**Tuesday**

P.E. with Ms. Tollefson Jackson

**Wednesday**

Art with Ms. Hubert

**Thursday**

Music with Mr. Worrell

**Friday**

Art with Ms. Hubert

## Upcoming Events

**Classroom Guest Teacher – 6 sessions!**  
**Simply Good Eating, U of M Extension**  
**CNE Educator: Roger Dahmen**

Wednesdays, our last session is Oct. 26

### Fall Conferences

Thursday, October 13

Tuesday, October 18

Wednesday, October 19

### Field Trip

November – Raptor Center

**Thank you!**