

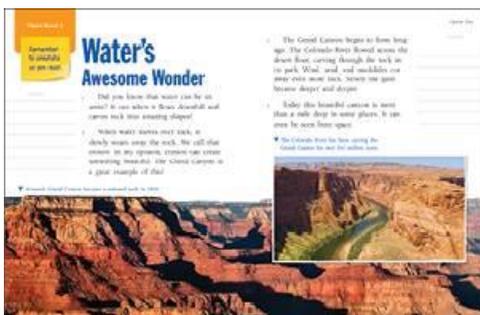
Ms. Monson's Classroom Newsletter

Reading

Unit 8 is called "Wind and Water Change Earth." As we study this, the essential question we ponder is "How do we react to changes in nature?" The students have been making many observations and share connections as we read texts about tornados and other natural occurrences. In this unit, we read and compare selections about the causes of Earth changes, such as erosion and natural disasters.



We have become more and more comfortable writing annotations in our booklets. We are curious about many things we read and write questions in the margins. We underline key details and circle words that are new to us, or what we deem as important.



In Writers workshop we read our work closely and gather evidence to make observations and inferences. We also intentionally use new vocabulary to help our writing. By using a variety of words, our messages not only become clearer, they are more interesting to read. As we write, we continue to hone the legibility of our handwriting. We share and discuss writing every day.

Math

Unit 4 (Algebraic Thinking) begins with lessons on equal sharing and equal groups to introduce the concept of fractions and multiplication. We write equations for story problems and write story problems for equations. We also extend, describe and record repeating and growing patterns. We continue to work with place value and 2- and 3-digit numbers. We are getting fast and fluent with our Minute Math facts.

Social Studies

The final social studies unit is "History," which integrated to a great degree with our recent study in our reading curriculum about the past. We are studying tools we use to learn about history including timelines and calendars. Using these, we look at changes over time. We are thinking about artifacts that help us learn about history, and the people that came before us. We also consider primary sources that help us learn reliable information.

Science

Our final science unit is "Solids and Liquids." In this physical science unit we are examining two of the three states of matter. We are investigating properties of solids and liquids. We observe what happens when they are mixed and describe what we notice. We also created towers with solids, trying to make them as tall as we could. Establishing a wide base helped.

Reminder

It is spring, however, we are still experiencing cold weather!
Please remember your warm coats, hats, scarves, mittens, snow pants and boots.



Quarter 4 Schedule 2:30-3:25

Monday:
P.E. with Ms. Tollefson
Tuesday:
Art with Ms. Hubert
Wednesday:
Music with Mr. Thomas
Thursday:
Art with Ms. Hubert
Friday:
Media/Tech
with Ms. McEathron

Calendar:

Monday-Friday, Apr. 2-6

Spring Break
No School

Field Trip:

Wednesday, April 18

University of Minnesota
Raptor Center
We will leave Waite Park at 9:30 and
will return around noon.

