

# The Hancock Herald

Mrs. Hancock, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Issue IV

Friday, September 18, 2009

## Voyages!

Our Voyages this week took us further into the book of Genesis and to the story of Abraham. We learned that Abraham trusted God enough to pack up his belongings and leave his home because that is what God wanted him to do. We talked about the fact that God chose Abraham to be the father of a great nation. We also learned that Abraham was a kind and unselfish man; so kind that Abraham allowed his nephew Lot to choose the best land for his family. Abraham trusted that God would bless him no matter where he lived. As a class, we thought of times in our lives when we can put others before ourselves. We, too, can show love to others just as God has shown His love for us.

## Look For...

Next week's pattern word spelling list was sent home today. These words will be tested on Friday. There are 12 pattern spelling words and three challenge words. The challenge words are optional. Memory work is also included. Memory work is to be recited on Wed. and Fri. mornings. A copy of memory and spelling words can be downloaded from our school website.

## Week Four

With four weeks of school completed, my "super seven" continue to shine! They now know our daily routines, but remain

flexible when changes are made. They make coming to school each day such a joy!

In keeping with our language arts topic of exploration, we spent the week exploring nature. We read the story *Henry and Mudge and the Starry Night*, which helped us to think about the nature that we might enjoy on a campout. We continued with the space theme from last week and learned about the constellations that we might see while sleeping under a starry sky. Our phonics and spelling work for the week covered two and three letter consonant blends, and our grammar study focused on predicates in sentences. We worked on our *All About Me* books this week. Specifically, I challenged the students to share a fact about themselves and then expound on that fact by adding interesting details.



I enjoyed listening to the friendship book reports today. The children did a great job, and the puppets showed great creativity! Thank you for helping your child to practice delivering his book report. Public speaking is a life-long skill, and I can tell that we have some wonderful orators in our group. ☺

Our extra words for the week were as follows:

### Amazing Words:

galaxy, tranquil, wildlife, underneath, identify, detective, fascinating, slimy

### High Frequency Words:

bear, build, couldn't, father, love, mother, straight

The second graders continued practicing their double facts this week. Our goal is to have our doubles facts through 12 memorized. If you are looking for something fun to do with your child during a car ride, feel free to drill him on these facts. It can also be fun to give the sum and ask your child for the addend that is doubled to make that sum. Along with our addition strategy the children were busy working on their subtraction skills, and reviewing how knowing the answer to an addition problem can help us find the answer to a subtraction problem. We worked on story problems and the clues that help us determine if we should add or subtract to find the answer. We know that if a story problem asks "how many more" or "how many less" we should subtract, while problems that ask "how many" require adding in order to find the solution.

We continued our unit on government in social studies this week. We learned about the duties of mayors, governors, and presidents, and the areas that they lead. We talked about the qualities that a president should have and created posters that we might use

... You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

Leviticus 19:1-2

if we were presidential candidates. We also had a special election in class to determine a reward for filling the jar on Mrs. Hancock's desk. We brainstormed options, created a ballot, and collected votes. We even had a run-off election because the first vote ended in a tie!



## Extra, Extra...

We have been reading the book *All About Sam* in class over the past few weeks. The last chapter of the book talked about morse code. I printed off the morse code alphabet for the children to enjoy. If you are seeing dots and dashes, you will know why. ☺

Have a great weekend. See you on Monday!

*Mrs. Hancock*

