

The Hancock Herald

Mrs. Hancock, 2nd Grade

Issue II

Friday, September 4, 2009

Voyages!

In our Voyages this week we learned about God's wonderful creation. We talked about the fact that God made the world with nothing but His words. We also reviewed what He made each day of the creation week. What a powerful and awesome God we have who can simply speak the words and it is so! I hope you have a chance to enjoy the beautiful creation book that your child completed during class.



Attachments

Attached to this newsletter is next week's pattern word spelling list. These words will be tested on **Friday**. There are 12 pattern spelling words and three challenge words. The challenge words are optional. If you think your child will benefit from this extra spelling practice, please encourage him to learn to spell the challenge words and spell them on the Friday test. 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.

You will also find information

regarding our first book report attached to this newsletter. The book report will be about friendship, and the format and requirements for the report are listed on the purple sheet. I have also included the guidelines (rubric) that I will use when grading the report and presentation. The book report is due **Fri., Sept. 18th**.

Week Two

We had another wonderful week in second grade! The children are doing such a great job of getting our daily routines down and adjusting to a new schedule. I wonder if they are as tired as their teacher at the end of the day? ☺

We read the first story in our reading books entitled *Iris and Walter*. We used the story to examine the concepts of characters, character traits, and setting. The topic for our current reading unit is "exploration." This week we explored rural and urban areas. We spent time this week comparing and contrasting these two different types of areas. Our phonics and spelling work for the week concentrated on short vowel sounds, and our grammar practice included writing complete sentences.



Each week in language arts the second graders will learn high frequency words and "Amazing Words" (vocabulary words). I will list them in the Hancock Herald in the following format:

Amazing Words:

investigate, rural, urban, creature, underground, brittle, dart, decision

High Frequency Words:

country, beautiful, front, someone, somewhere, friend

We concentrate on the meanings of the "Amazing Words" and the spelling/reading of the high frequency words. New words will be added each week as part of our reading curriculum.

Our math for the week focused on different addition strategies. We worked on "plus one" addition facts. We practiced counting on from the largest addend in an addition problem. We looked at double facts and how knowing your "doubles" can help with adding "double plus one." We used ten frames and counters to "make ten to add."

You have received your child's "just right" reading range, and today you are receiving a note that lists his A.R. (Accelerated Reader) goal for the quarter. The last day of the first quarter is Friday, Oct. 23rd. Thank you for encouraging your child to read each day.

We continued our discussion on the importance of recycling in science this week. We discovered that styrofoam is not biodegradable, and that the only

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

Leviticus 19:1-2

way to get rid of styrofoam is with the use of chemicals (such as acetone) which can be very harmful to our environment. Keep using those washable, ceramic coffee cups!

Extra, Extra...

This week we worked on our listening skills. We talked about what it looks like to “pay attention” to a speaker. We noted that a good listener sits or stands up straight, faces the speaker, and looks him in the eyes. We call this the “listening position.” I thought you might find this helpful at home also. ☺

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our curriculum night on Wednesday. We strive to keep the lines of communication open between school and home, and our curriculum night provided me with an excellent opportunity to share important school information with you. Thank you for supporting your child in his/her educational endeavors.

I have moved past the mourning of lost second graders to truly celebrating the wonderful students that God has placed in my classroom. I cannot think of a more wonderful group of children to be able to teach. I am very blessed, not only with great students, but also with supportive parents. Thank you.

The *Hancock Herald* is coming to you one more time in a hard copy. I want to send out a test e-mail before I send the newsletter online, and I ran out of time this week. Thanks for your patience.

Blessings on your Labor Day weekend! Take some time to relax. See you back at school on Tuesday.

Mrs. Hancock



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