

APRIL 11, 2008
THIRD QUARTER RANKING PERIOD

The third quarter has been a busy one. Here are some of the things we have done. In Reading we have read many stories and books. These are not all, but several.

- Titanic (a favorite)
- Loch Ness Monster
- Seasonal stories such as for Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, and Easter
- Fairy Tales such as Talking Eggs, Yeh-Shen, Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters, Paper Bag Princess, and The True Story of the Three Little Pigs
- Dr. Desoto
- Reading Prompts
- Where Does the Garbage Go?
- Tornado
- Balto and the Great Race
- Magic School Bus Lost in the Solar System
- Charles Lindbergh's book (Flight)
- Amelia Earhart
- Where the Red Fern Grows
- Assorted poetry
- Biography Report
- Washington DC books

We read often throughout the day, and visit the library for books each week. I expect reading records each Friday. This quarter there were 4 for Feb. and 4 for March.

In writing we have accomplished these things:

- Titanic facts
- Ground hog reports
- Bunny Tales
- Letter to the President
- Responses to Reading
- Solar System reports
- Game board questions for the Solar System
- Letters to our penpals
- District Writing Prompt

We work on these things with goals of good writing in mind – ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, and conventions.

Their handwriting gets better as they get more comfortable with letter joinings. Practice in our workbooks and Jumpstart papers help with this. Spelling consists of a new word list each week. Tests are given on Fridays. We have worked with homophones, words with double consonants, plurals, suffixes and prefixes, compound words, and contractions. Many Wednesdays now, we are responsible for spelling sentences.

In math we have introduced fractions as finding equal parts of a whole, and geometry with line segments, angles, and dimensional shapes. Our current focus is multiplication concepts, strategies, and facts – 0, 1, 2, 5, 10's. I have also done the 3's with them. We work on problem solving throughout the year in addition, subtraction, and currently with multiplication.

We fit in health and nutrition whenever possible, and have enjoyed Tina from the Mainely Nutrition network as a speaker. Computer keyboarding, and other skills are progressing!

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