

Hello Room 31!

It's been a while since my last update – we have been busy in room 31! Below are some of the things we have been working on! 😊

#### Reading/Writing

1. We continue with small group reading, where our focus is vocabulary development, main idea, and summarizing.
2. In small groups and whole class, we have learned about sequencing in our reading. This is another comprehension strategy that we are focusing on to help us become active, engaged readers, and to build our comprehension skills. To date, the kids have learned about the following reading comprehension skills: finding story elements, asking questions and looking for answers, looking for details/support within our reading, looking for main idea and key details, and sequencing.
3. We continue with our daily language instruction, where we are learning things such as subject/verb agreement and parts of speech. We have discussed why these things are important and how learning them helps us become better writers.
4. Spelling patterns continue. We also continue with our personalized spelling journals. Spelling is mostly done in class, unless an assignment is not finished. Spelling words are online if you would like extra practice at home.
5. We have been practicing opinion writing – our last prompt was to convince someone why a certain pet was the best pet to have. They had to back up their opinion with at least three details. They also practice opinion writing weekly when we write our “Me Museum” letters. Their letters start with the opinion that they have a lot in common with each other – then, they use details from the Me Museum presentation to support how they have a lot in common.

#### Math

1. We have wrapped up addition and subtraction with and without regrouping. If your child is still having difficulty with regrouping, please know that we will continue to loop back and revisit this throughout the year. That is what I love about my math program. We constantly review old material as we move on to the new material. I can also give you materials to practice at home. Please let me know if you would like some.
2. We are focusing now on multiplication. We are reviewing our facts up to the 5's. And we are learning more about the concept of multiplication. Last week, we did a great deal of work with “loops and groups” and “groups of”. This will set the foundation for multiplication. We played a fun “Loops and Groups” game. You can do it at home – all you need is dice! Ask your child to play with you!
3. Our Number Corner for October is all about shapes. We have been studying triangles, quadrilaterals, pentagons, and hexagons. We are studying their sides, corners, and angles. The kids have learned about lines of symmetry and right/acute/obtuse angles. (We have learned what those angles look like, but have not yet discussed the idea of a 90 degree angle).

#### Social Studies/Science

1. Native American studies are done. You can log onto your child's gmail account and they can show you how they made a google slide show on one of the groups of Native Americans.
2. We have begun our Solar System project based learning unit. I am SO excited about this unit! I have designed an engaging unit for the kids that not only focuses on the solar system science standards, but focuses on life skills such as collaborating with others, critical thinking and

problem solving, creativity, research skills, and presentation skills. There are 5 groups who are each studying specific content: 1. Moon/moon phases, 2. The sun and how we have day and night, 3. The planets, 4. How we have seasons, and 5. Stars. Each groups will research their topic in books or online (kidrex.org, which is a kid-friendly search engine or websites I have given them), create a presentation piece, and present their learning to the class. Last week, they chose their topic of interest and began their research. They worked very hard (and I even had some kids who wanted to continue their research at recess and Friday Fun!!!!)

3. We had a guest come in and teach the kids about the different states of matter, and they made "Oobleck".

#### Art

1. Students are in VAPA this morning!
2. Our last class art project was creating a story about ourselves using old Native American symbols.

#### Technology

1. Students continue to use our chrome books, almost daily. Sometimes it is for Lexia and AR. Other times, they use it for bigger projects like their Solar System research or Google docs/slides. This week they will be using Google Draw with Ms. Dozier and me in computer lab this week.

#### Reminders/Extra Info

1. The students will have a sub on Thurs 10/27 as I am in a district math workshop. The sub is a wonderful friend of mine who has a great deal of experience in the classroom so it will be a productive day in room 31!
2. This week is red ribbon week: Monday – Wear red; Tuesday – wear a jersey; Wednesday – wear neon colors; Thursday – wear pjs; Friday - wear your PW spirit shirt
3. Box Tops ends tomorrow!
4. 10/31: Halloween – please see Mrs. Thorson's email regarding costumes. The students will play outdoor games with the other third grade classes at the end of the day on Monday. But otherwise, learning will resume as usual!
5. 11/7: Minimum Day
6. 11/11: Holiday
7. 11/14-11/17: Minimum days and conferences

Thanks – please feel free to contact me with any questions!  
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