

September 16, 2016

Hi Room 31!

Another busy and amazing week in Room 31!

### **Reading**

This week, we read two short stories titled What is a Community? and Life in My Village. With these stories, we were able to practice a new reading comprehension strategy: finding the main idea and key details. We identified main ideas, found key details/support, and drafted written responses to discuss the main idea and the details we chose to support them. We did this together. Next week, we will practice this independently.

Students continue to use their spelling journals to record their challenging words.

Last week and this week, we started small groups for reading. In these centers, small groups of students were able to meet and read with me. The other centers they enjoyed were Lexia/Chrome books, spelling practice, and AR reading. We will do these centers 2-3 times every week. I love the opportunity to read with the students in small groups. And they did a great job transitioning from activity to activity.

Students were introduced to Time for Kids, where we read about current events and also looked for main idea.

### **Math**

The students are enjoying our number corner where we are investigating patterns, practicing multiplication facts, learning different ways to represent multiplication, and working on graphing.

We have started multiplication facts. Every week, we will practice a new fact. This week was the 2's week. We learned how to use "9-lines" to help us remember our facts.

Students were introduced to math story problems this week. Problem solving is a challenging task for many students, and a lot of times they don't know where to start and how to explain their thinking. Our story problem process requires them to: 1. Write down what they know, 2. Write down what they want to find out, and 3. Solve the problem in pictures, numbers, and words. They did a very good job this week. You will see these story problems as homework and they will reflect whatever math we are currently studying in class. Added bonus: the story problems are about your children. This was very exciting for them. 😊

We began our next math unit, which is double digit adding.

### **Social Studies**

The students have been learning about the coastal Native American tribes. They have learned about their homes, clothing, food, tools, methods of travel, and beliefs. They created a wonderful art/writing project to show their learning. Next week, we will learn about the Native Americans in the valley, mountain, and desert regions.

**Tech/Writing**

We continue to use our chrome books to learn on Lexia, Math Facts in a Flash, and to take AR quizzes. This week, they also learned how to use Google Docs: they opened a new document, typed a friendly letter, added a picture to their letter, and learned how to share/email the letter to me. We will be doing this weekly to correspond with our Me Museum. Ask your child about this – they loved it!

**PE**

Students are still practicing their dance.

**Art**

We had VAPA this morning.

**Book Fair**

Thanks for supporting our school library and classroom library at the book fair. I enjoyed seeing some of you at the Ice Cream Social!

\*\*\*REMINDER - I am still looking for a volunteer for the Harvest Carnival! Please let me know if you are interested!

Have a great weekend! Thank you for your awesome kids! ☺  
Stephanie Cochenour