



Mrs. Vaccarino's Class Classroom Newsletter December 6, 2019

Word Study: we are focusing on short vowel rules. This week we played head bands to review the meaning of our words and created word trees to review and brainstorm more short vowel words.

Math: we finished Topic 4 which focused on using multiplication to divide. This was our first introduction to division. Today we started Topic 5 which focuses on applying strategies to achieve fluency with multiplication and division facts within 100. Fluency includes a strong focus on selecting and using appropriate strategies. The work in this topic moves students toward knowing from memory all products of two 1-digit numbers by the end of Grade 3.

- Students were introduced to patterns for multiplication facts using a multiplication table.

Reading: the main focus this week was identifying the main idea and supporting details of a nonfiction text. The students were introduced to two strategies for helping them using a table top or a hand. The idea of the table top is the main idea is important like the top of the table but the table won't stand without legs just as the main idea must be supported with evidence. The hand helps the students to identify the topic and answer question words to form into a sentence as the main idea. We also reviewed how to check our comprehension when reading...read a section, think "what did I learn," jot your thinking, check to make sure that is what the author meant.

Writing: we have been stretching out our ideas in our expert book. The students wrote long about their topic then used their writing to create chapters. The students are now adding more details to their chapters. Some students are reading books on their topic during Reading Workshop and jotting their learning right into their expert book. We also learned how to identify important vocabulary words that will need to be defined so the reader can learn and understand what he/she is reading.



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