



Weekly News from Mrs. Mikalsen's Class January 10, 2020



Language Arts:

- ~We looked for the Word of the Week: **and** in our books and poems
- ~We read The Mitten by Jan Brett. We practiced retelling The Mitten and we made our own mittens that we brought home so we can retell the story to our families. We also compared two different versions of The Mitten, a very old tale.
- ~We read The Snowy Day. We used this book to help us understand the concept of a main character. We also located various high frequency words throughout the book, and practiced retelling the story using pictures.
- ~We listened to the story Geraldine's Big Snow in our Listening Center and then illustrated and wrote about our favorite parts.
- ~We each read some special leveled books, individually, with Mrs. Mikalsen.
- ~We wrote stories about what we did over the Winter Break. We also wrote about what we like to do on snowy days. It sounds like lots of fun was had by all.
- ~In Foundations we began tapping out consonant-vowel-consonant (or CVC) words and we are learning how to properly write or uppercase letters. So far we've learned: A, B, C and D.



Books:

- ~The Mitten (two versions)
- ~Squirrel's New Year's Resolution
- ~The Hat
- ~The Snowy Day
- ~Lot of other "Winter Favorites"

Poems/Songs:

"Snowball"

Upcoming Events and Reminders

Tuesday, January 14th

Family Tech Night, 6-7:30 PM

Thursday, January 16th

Library Books Due

Monday, January 20th

No School ~ Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Wednesday, January 22nd

Scholastic Book Orders due

January 28th

Early Dismissal ~ Staff Development

Birthdays

Elishajuan 1/13
Mrs. Colavita 1/17



Math:

- ~We completed our Unit 2 assessment and the children did very well on it.
- ~We worked on recognizing sets of 5 to help us acquire "counting on" strategies.
- ~We are creating and solving lots of different math stories that involve addition and subtraction.

**Social Studies/Science:**

- ~We celebrated our own "New Year"
- ~We created New Year's hats, and had our own countdown (to 12 noon).
- ~We learned about what resolutions are and made one or two of our own.
- ~We are learning about the season of Winter and looking for markers to let us know that winter is here.
- ~We created snowflakes and learned why snow appears to be white, an especially perplexing problem when you realize that snow is essentially water/ice and that water and ice are relatively clear). We had fun discussing this phenomena and creating models to figure out what was going on (it involved a lot of smooth and wrinkly wax paper).
- ~Please keep your "Winter Checklist" in a prominent spot at home. Around the end of February/beginning of March I'll put something out to send them back in to school. I always find a cool prize for all who participate and complete the assignment.

**Art:**

- ~We used our fine motor skills to cut, color and assemble wonderful penguins and mittens.

**Please Remember to**

*Pack a nutritious snack (that your child will eat) everyday.

*Winter weather is now here. Going outside for recess is an important part of our day. It gives us needed physical exercise as well an opportunity to practice social skills. **Please make sure that your child has appropriate outerwear so they can be warm and comfortable. If they do not have a proper coat, they will not be allowed to go outside for recess.**

