

This Week in Fourth Grade

10/24/16 - 11/4/16

Mrs. Pahl & Ms.
Eberhardt's Class

Writing Workshop

We started our new unit by writing an essay together. We used the boxes and bullets format to help us organize our ideas and add details to our piece. Then, we began brainstorming ideas for our own pieces by thinking about people, places and objects that matter to us.

Next week, we will each select a topic to write about and develop a thesis statement.

Reading Workshop

This week, we launched our first nonfiction unit and immersed ourselves in nonfiction texts. First, we read some nonfiction picture books, including *Ivan: The Remarkable True Story of the Shopping Mall Gorilla*, *Winnie: The True Story of the Bear Who Inspired Winnie-the Pooh*, and *Henry's Freedom Box: A True Story from the Underground Railroad*. Then, we read some articles about extreme weather events, such as hurricanes and tornadoes. Finally, we began reading a book about Mt. Everest. Did you know that Mt. Everest is 29,000 feet tall? That's about the height of 20 Empire State Buildings stacked on top of each other!

Looking ahead, we will study nonfiction text structures, such as compare and contrast, problem/solution and cause and effect.

Science

We read *Wolf Island* and learned how the animals in an ecosystem interact with one another.

We are now studying food chains and food webs.

Math

We spent a lot of time practicing multi-digit multiplication. We learned a variety of multiplication strategies, including area models, partial products and the algorithm.

Yesterday, Ms. Russo visited our classroom and reintroduced us to division with a math game.

Next week, we will focus more on division. This is a great time to encourage your child to review his/her basic division facts.

Technology

Our robotics unit is coming to a close. We worked closely with Ms. Boylan and Ms. Malfi to build and program our robots.

Our final challenge is to draw a large block letter and program our robots to navigate through the letter.

Ask your child about this program; it has been very exciting!

Social Studies

We began studying the Eastern Woodland Indians. We looked at the natural resources in their environment and how they used them in all areas of their lives.

Next, we will look more closely at the lives of the Iroquois and Algonquian tribes.

Contact Information

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