

This Week in Fourth Grade

October 5-21, 2016

Mrs. Pahl & Ms.
Eberhardt's Class

Reading Workshop

As we finish up our first reading unit, we are moving away from characters and beginning to build interpretations of our texts. We are challenging ourselves to think, "What can we take away from this book? What is the bigger message, or deeper meaning, of this book?" This is hard work!

This week we focused on big, life issues in our texts and what the author could be trying to teach his/her readers about that issue. Next week, we will study how various literary elements, such as plot, setting and repeating objects, can support the author's message.

Our next unit will focus on nonfiction. This is a good time to visit some nonfiction texts with your child; reading about a topic of shared interest is a great way to spend time together. You might want to highlight some nonfiction text features as you read, such as the table of contents, captions, graphs and glossary.

Social Studies

We are wrapping up our geography unit. Please encourage your child to study his/her geography vocabulary; we will have a test in the next week or two.

Looking ahead, we will begin to study the Eastern Woodland Indians who lived in the New York region. We will focus on the Algonquian and Iroquois tribes and how they used natural resources in the area to live and survive.

Writing Workshop

We have been hard at work editing and revising our realistic fiction pieces. We used checklists to help us make sure we used transition words, developed rich leads and had proper punctuation. Our final step is to publish our pieces!

For our next unit, we will write personal essays. We will use the boxes and bullets format to guide our writing.

Math

In Chapter 2 we studied factors and multiples; ask your child to tell you the difference! Finding the factors of a number was challenging, so we will continue to revisit this concept.

As we look ahead to Chapter 3, we will be studying multiplication and division with multi-digit numbers. We will study various ways of multiplying and dividing; students will choose the strategy that works best for them.

Science

Do leaves always contain the chemicals that produce beautiful fall colors, or do leaves make new chemicals in the fall? This week, we conducted an experiment with chromatography paper to find out. Ask your child about our results!

Vocabulary Parade Friday, October 28, 2016

Visit our class webpage for more details.

Contact Information

cpahl@greatneck.k12.ny.us
keberhardt@greatneck.k12.ny.us