

Classroom Times

November 2011

Mrs. Camara



What's happening in Room242???

Math:

Students have been learning about graphing, range, median, mode, and analyzing word problems. Students are learning the importance of writing out the steps when solving a word problem. Students are asked to focus on what information the word problem is asking them to answer. The key is for students to develop a plan and follow the steps. Also, students have just taken a quiz on multi-digit multiplication.

Working in groups students have been creating pictographs, line plots and bar graphs. I have shared with students that being able to create and read data on a graph is a valuable skill they will

Science:

Students have completed our unit on rocks and minerals. The projects students completed were impressive and students shared great information. We will begin studying energy and simple machines first week of November.

Social Studies: Students have been working on map projects in class and when completed will present. After energy unit in

use throughout their lives. Students will be taking the math benchmark in November. This exam will cover all that students have learned since the beginning of the year.

ELA:

In reading we are completing one story per week. The vocabulary and story concepts are challenging. We do many lessons in class to assist your child in understanding the author's purpose and the main ideas of each story. Students are encouraged to study the vocabulary and re-read the story prior to the weekly test on Friday's. As the week's pass the spelling words are becoming more challenging. Students are encouraged to begin studying on Monday to ensure they know the words for Friday.

science students will begin studying the three major pre-Columbian civilizations that existed in Central and South America (Mayans, Aztecs and Incas.) We will be studying the political structures, culture, writing, and religious practices of the three civilizations.

Writing:



I am very happy with how writer's workshop is progressing. Students are working hard at developing their skills as young writers. Many students have signed up to share their weekly stories in the "Author's Chair." This gives them an opportunity to share their best work with the

class. It also allows other students to give their peers feedback and suggestions.

Homework Tips

- Set a schedule, including both a beginning and an ending time. Most kids need some time to unwind after school before they tackle their homework.
- Encourage your child to divide the homework assignment into "What I can do myself" and "What I need help with."
- Provide a home study center for your child with adequate light and few distractions. If your child concentrates better with "white noise" (music), provide that help.
- Allow bathroom, drink, and/or snack breaks, but insist on completion of tasks.

Parent Journal

Notes:

Homework:

Please be sure your child completes their nightly homework. Homework is a way to reinforce the skill your child has learned in class. Students who complete ALL homework assignments each quarter will receive a no homework pass.

Dates to Remember:

Nov. 1st- Picture Day
 November 4th- Grades Close
 Nov. 11th- No School (Veterans Day)
 Nov. 14th - Report Cards Home
 Nov. 21st- half day (conferences)
 Nov. 22nd- half day (conferences)
 Nov. 23rd half day
 Nov. 24th- No School -Thanksgiving
 Nov. 25th - No School