
FIRST GRADE

math literacy science



In **Literacy**, we are learning about digraphs: sh, th, ch, wh. We are also learning how to read and spell words with the welded -ng and -nk sounds. In your child's folder there is a mini-book that includes some of the words from their word lists. Every week you will find spelling words that they have been writing/reading as well as a 4 page simple text that goes along with that week's spelling pattern.

Mr. Ted listening to first graders' observations

Students are finishing up their Non-Fiction writing pieces. Today and yesterday we have begun to edit for spelling and punctuation, and if more information is needed then we will brainstorm ways they could

elaborate. When they are finished making covers for their books, they read them to the class and receive three compliments on their work.

In **Math**, we continue to focus on building number sense by doing activities that reinforce the relationship between addition and subtraction. This week students practiced coloring in shapes of 5,6,7 and they wrote equations that matched. They are beginning to more easily see that if $3+4=7$, then $7-4=3$, etc. This week we have also been reviewing concepts such as *longer* and *shorter*. Students have practiced measuring objects with cubes, and they decided which of the objects were the longest and the shortest. Next week they will measure their own bodies with cubes!

In **Science**, we have been learning about how miraculous animals are, and how their bodies are designed to survive in their particular habitats. We have also been learning about how humans “copy” nature’s designs, which is called Biomimicry. For the past couple of weeks we have been fortunate to have Mr. Ted (from the Hitchcock Center) visit us. On his first visit he showed us skulls of moose. We noticed how their teeth were perfect for scraping bark off of trees. This week he visited us with stuffed animal mounts of a rabbit and a squirrel. First graders noticed the animals’ coloring, the designs of their ears and feet. We talked about how their bodies are perfect for their particular habitats. Then, we went outside and found coyote tracks and squirrel tracks. We even found the pine cone scraps of a squirrel’s feast! Mr. Ted will continue to visit our class over the next few weeks. We are lucky to have him!



Finding leftovers from the squirrel's feast of pinecones.