

SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

3C News



COMMUNITY UPDATE

We continue to work on building community in 3C! We truly do this throughout our entire day. Our Open Circle discussions are helping us decide on classroom goals that we'd like to strive to meet. So far friends have discussed wanting to come to a classroom every day that feels welcoming, nonjudgemental, genuine, forgiving, kind, caring, supportive, thoughtful, and a place where its' members use "the size of the problem" strategy. We have read several picture books to encourage discussion about these characteristics. Now that our goals have been established, we will use them to create classroom rules and a list of actions or behaviors

we think would be helpful to employ in order to achieve our goals.

We also had our first Mr. Caron outdoor challenge. As you can see in the above picture 3C spent some time visiting favorite memories from their days at Forest Friday. Then they quickly changed gears to complete a class challenge on some swinging logs. Together they worked hard to cross the "river" by helping one another and being able to take safe risks. They rocked it and had a fun time too!

They are so pleasant to be with each day. I feel very lucky to be a part of 3C!

STUDENT WORK (for you to keep)

A lot of what we do is creative and hung up or kept inside our different subject areas journals. I posted photos of the math glyphs on our classroom blog so you can see them. We do begin most all of math workshops with a warm-up activity. This week's theme was problem solving. I am sending home some of that work inside this Friday's Communication Folders. The math (addition and subtraction) computation skills are mostly a review from second grade. They are working on showing an equation (number sentence) that matches the word problem, then showing their strategy to solve, and finally boxing and labeling their final answers. These type of organization for their math work is not yet solid. They'll continue working on it.



ACADEMICS

In reading:

*Independent reading time- 3C read for 25 minutes each day this week. I continued reading conferences, and it was a blast! I love reading with each of them. For the most part, conferences have focused on instruction for fluency, comprehension, and book choices. Many readers have already selected just- right books.

*Book Hunt/ Author Exploration: They have been exploring the author, Suzanne Selfors' website. During writing time, they are studying her helpful tips for how to come up with ideas, but for reading they are exploring the different books that she has published. They are coming up with a list of possible titles that they might like to read this year and supporting their lists with reasons.

In Writing:

- * Writers Notebooks- They learned how writer's notebooks are a tool that writers use to help them practice writing or to "live a writing kind of life". They used the author, Ralph Fletcher, as a way to understand how they can use their notebooks effectively. They looked at Ralph Fletcher's writing blog and explored his helpful tips and ideas for what to write in their notebooks. They now have a list of expectations glued into their writer's notebooks and have begun using it to write their first entries.
- * I Am Poem: They finished writing their first drafts (3 stanzas) for their "I Am Poems". Then, they participate in a lesson about editing. After working with me in order to learn how to use our third grade editing checklist, they had writing conferences in order to get teacher support for revising and editing their poems. These will be published next week and will be hung up! I'll get some photos on the blog!

In Math:

*Number Corner- They continued to work on identifying different models for multiplication, writing multiplication equations, and solving them. They also



worked on graphing sets of data. They used the information gained from the glyphs to make math statements, comparisons, and then graphed their findings onto bar graphs.

*Loops and Groups- This is a multiplication game that uses the grouping strategy. They actually draw items into their "loops" and then write multiplication equations in order to solve for the totals.

*Addition Facts: Although I do think they are coming in with great addition fact fluency, I did give a quick assessment to establish some baseline data. They'll be able to set goals too. They also had some time during workshops to play addition fact games.

*Amanda Bean's Amazing Dream- This is a picture book about a girl who loves counting. She shares how she learns that multiplication is a faster way to count. It lets readers know that multiplication has a purpose and it can help them solve equations more quickly. The book shows real- life models of multiplication like building windows, groups of pastries at the bakery, bicycles, and the like. 3C began creating their own Amanda Bean booklets. It's one way to help them represent the meaning of multiplication and to begin to recognize the different models used to represent it.

In Science:

- * Observations: They finished their hand observation activity and worked really hard at writing questions to accompany their drawings. These are glued into their science journals.
- * Weather Inquiry and clouds: They just began their weather inquiry which is the first science unit in third grade. So far, they have brainstormed and written questions about clouds. They are creating a "Wonder Chart" to display these questions and to keep track of future questions that they will have throughout the inquiry. They've also watched some of the cloud video from Mystery Science and made cloud finder goggles.

kcoronato@sau21.org

GET OUT YOUR CALENDARS

Thursday, September 20- Camp Lincoln Field Trip

Curriculum Night- Families, the date and time of this event is being changed again. I'm so sorry. I like to get information out to parents as soon as possible so times can be scheduled. As soon as this new date is published, I'll send it.

Picture Day- September 18- there will be a separate date for retakes too.

THANK YOU!

*We have received lots of snacks!!! Thank you so much for that.

READ ALOUD

*We have read the following picture books:

Be Kind

A Writer's Notebook

Amanda Beans Amazing Dream

Strictly No Elephants

Adrian Simcox Does Not Have a Horse

And also Stuart Goes to School as our chapter book read aloud.

BLOG UPDATE:

mrscoronato.edublogs.org

It's up and running! There are newly posted photos on there.