

Kindergarten Chronicles

November 9, 2018

This was a very busy week for our Kindergarten friends! In Writing Workshop, we spent time thinking of topics we wanted more books about, and turned our classroom into a book factory making books to add to our library! We learned how to plan these books page by page with quick sketches and then how to go back to add sentences to match each picture. We are loving writing more and more everyday!

This week in Reader's Workshop we learned more about our SUPER READER POWERS! We learned that WE HAVE PICTURE POWER. This means that when we are reading and come to a word we do not know we can stop and look at the picture to help. We also learned that WE HAVE SOUND POWER. This means if we are reading and come to a word we do not know we can stop and say the beginning sound to help us. We also learned that WE HAVE PERSISTENCE POWER. This means that when books get rough, WE GET TOUGH. We know we don't just use one super power on tricky words, we try them all.

In Foundations, we worked on lowercase letters **j** and **p**. The children continued the routine of saying the letter, picture, and sound for all letters but focusing on the **j** and **p** sound. They practiced making these letters in their notebooks and on their whiteboards.

This week we learned the sight words **it** and **we**. Please continue to practice all of the sight words that your child has learned thus far. Encourage your child to find these words in the books that you read at home.

In math we continued our unit all about shapes. We practiced combining smaller shapes to make larger shapes by completing shape puzzles. Students loved making pictures of flowers, animals, boats, and much more out of different paper shapes. We also learned a new game called "Make a Hexagon." We used our pattern blocks to make hexagons by combining smaller shapes. We loved finding different combinations of triangles, rhombuses, and trapezoids to make a six-sided figure!

In Science, Mrs. Nestle's class learned that the longer light shines on a surface, the warmer a surface gets. The children were then able to identify the time of day (morning, afternoon, or night) depending on the recorded temperature of the playground surface. The children also learned that sunlight warms darker surfaces more than paler surfaces. Mrs. Sisson's friends conducted their final observations on their garlic cloves. The ones not in water did not grow and the ones in water grew stems this time. They concluded that plants need water to live. They also observed their radish seeds. In one cup, they watered the seeds, in the other cup they did not water the seeds. Again, they learned that plants need water. The students also learned that plants get the water they need using their roots. In Ms. Kline's class, students used what they have learned about the strength and direction of forces to hit targets with their own pinball machines. They also started exploring what makes an object change direction and how they can make a pinball change direction when playing with their machine.

As always, we wish for you a wonderful weekend with your family!

The Kindergarten Team

+++Please see reminders on the back

High Frequency Words:

I, can, the, a, to, is, my, go, me, like, on, in, so, we, it

Letters we have learned so far: t, b, f, m, n, i, u, o, c, a, g, r, e, j, p

Updates and Reminders:

- Picture retakes will be on **Thursday, November 15th**. If you are unsatisfied with your child's school picture please return them to school that day and a second picture will be taken.
- **Wednesday, November 21st** is a half day. Students are dismissed at 12:05. No lunch is served.
 - On this day the school celebrates slipper day! Students can bring a pair of slippers to school to wear on this special half day. They are also invited to bring their favorite stuffed animal! We will enjoy a comfy day of reading and learning together!
- School is closed **November 22nd and November 23rd**.
- Don't forget that the school calendar as well as other important information can be found on the school website: danverspublicschools.org/Highlands