

## Kindergarten Chronicles

October 19, 2018

It was yet another great week in kindergarten! Each class continues to love spending time writing in Writer's Workshop each day! This week we worked on stretching out words and using our Foundations letter sheets to help write the letters. We learned that sometimes words are challenging to stretch, but that good writers say "I think I can, I think I can" when something is hard. Please encourage your child to write at home using kindergarten spelling (writing the sounds they hear) to help build his or her confidence. This week we also learned that some ideas have too many details for one piece of paper. We practiced planning our stories across three pages to create a book with a beginning, middle, and end. You can help your student with these writing skills by giving them opportunities to write at home. They can write a story about what they did over the weekend, create a menu for a make believe restaurant, or write a brochure on an animal they know a ton about!

This week in Foundations we focused on the letters **Aa** and **Gg**. Please continue reviewing and writing these with your child at home using the language we send in the packet in the beginning of every week. We also learned two more sight words-- **GO** and **ME**.

In Reader's Workshop, we wrapped up Unit One: We Are Readers. The students practiced reading with their partners. They worked on being powerful partners that worked together to wow their listeners. They referenced our "Readers Read with a Partner" and "We Are Storybook Readers" charts to put all of their skills together to be a powerful partner. Finally, we celebrated the end of the unit with a "We Are Readers" parade around the school. The children did such an amazing job during this unit. It was fun to watch them grow as readers.

In science, Mrs. Nestle's class discussed the difference between sunlight and shade. The children continued to research how the sun warms the Earth's surface. Students used thermometers to measure the surface of the walking path when it was in direct sunlight and shade. Mrs. Sisson's class started a garlic experiment to discover if plants need water. Each pair of science partners has a clove of garlic in water and a clove of garlic not in water. They will be observing these and recording their findings in a journal over the next few weeks. They studied the parts of a plant. They also planted radish seeds to begin an observation of how plants grow. The children are excited to see what happens with their garlic cloves and ran dish seeds over the next few weeks! Ms. Kline's class spent time experimenting with their pinball machines,

observing how they could make a pinball move a short distance or a long distance and how the force they used affected the distance the ball went.

In math, students started learning about measurement and how to compare the lengths of two objects. We also learned how to compare numbers using the vocabulary words more, less, and equal. This is a fun and easy skill to practice at home! When you are eating breakfast create two groups of cheerios and ask your child to "compare" the groups. They will really impress you by using "math words" in their explanations!

Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,  
The Kindergarten Team

**High Frequency Words:** a, I, can, the, to, see, my, is, go, me  
**Letters we have learned so far:** t, b, f, m, n, i, u, o, c, g, a.

**Updates and Reminders: Please check your red folder every night for mid-week updates :)**

-Our kindergarten spotlight is Wednesday, October 31 at 1:40 in the gym. The children have been practicing every day for our spotlight. We hope to see you all there!

-Don't forget to bring in one show and tell object on Tuesday, October 23rd for writing workshop.

-The Monster Mash is this Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm.

-Don't forget to look at the Highlands' Website at <http://danverspublicschools.org/highlands/>