

Kindergarten Chronicles

February 1, 2019

This week the children became Avid Nonfiction Readers. They learned that avid nonfiction readers read and say, WOW!, ask questions about things they are wondering about when reading, and use fancy vocabulary words. We also talked about how nonfiction books are more difficult to read because they have vocabulary words so the children really needed to use their even stronger reading powers to read these difficult books. The children did a great job practicing these skills.

In Writer's Workshop, we used the mentor text, My First Soccer Game by Alyssa Satin Capucilli to help us further develop our How-To stories. The students worked on having a title that tells what the book is about, pictures that teach, list the things you need, and had the important parts written in bold. We will continue to work on these skills throughout the unit.

In math, we continued to work on counting on a numberline. The students worked with number lines and had to fill in the missing numbers. They also learned a new game called Roll and Record 3. In this game they rolled a 1-6 dot cube and a 1-3 dot cube and had to add the numbers to find the total. They then recorded this number in that number column. The number column that reached the top of the page first won. They also played the game double compare. In this game they each flipped over two cards and added those numbers together to find the total. The child with the higher total was the winner of that round. The children are working on adding two numbers together up to ten in both of these math activities. You can support this skill at home by making up basic addition equations while waiting in line, riding in the car, or grocery shopping!

This week in science Mrs. Sisson's class began designing their very own pinball machine. They added a rubber band as a launcher and observed how the pinball started moving when the rubber band exerted a force on it. They also began observing the distance an object moves and asking themselves "What makes an object move shorter and longer distances?" Ms. Kline's class learned how to graph weather data. They used this data to compare it to other weather graphs. They also learned why the sun warms the surface of the earth. Mrs. Nestle's class learned that animals need to eat food to live and that animals eat different food. They also learned that animals can only live in a place that has the food they need. Different animals eat different food, therefore, animals live in different habitats.

In Foundations, we have completed learning about the uppercase letters. We also finished reviewing the lowercase letters and have continued to tap out and

read three letter words (consonant-vowel-consonant or cvc) words. You can practice at this at home! Write simple cvc words (ex: top, mop, Sam, bam, rut, pug, leg, pet, sip, Tim) and have them tap them out and blend them to read. You will be amazed! We also added the words **look** and **this** to our word wall this week.

Have a wonderful weekend!

The Kindergarten Team

Our word wall words so far: I, can, the, a, to, is, my, go, me, like, on, in, so, we, it, and, up, at, see, he, do, you, an, no, am, said, went, come, here, are, look, this

Updates and Reminders:

-As the winter weather continues please make sure that your child has labeled hats, gloves, scarves, etc

-Also, as it gets dryer out, please feel free to keep labeled lip balm and hand lotion in your child's backpack

-Dismissal Changes:

- If you send an e-mail about a change to your child's dismissal, please make sure to also send it to our secretary, Mrs. Halloran (denisehalloran@danvers.org). That way, if your child's teacher is absent from school that day, Mrs. Halloran will also have a record of your child's dismissal change.

-Our first field trip is planned for **Thursday, March 28th** to the Boston Children's Museum. If you would like to chaperone, please let your child's teacher know and double check that your CORI is up to date with the front office. Each child is allowed to have one parent chaperone and we would like as many parents to come as possible!

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