

Kindergarten Chronicles

January 18, 2019

It was another great week at Highlands! On Wednesday, students enjoyed a cultural enrichment program sponsored by the PAC. A musical comedian performed a hilarious show all about the funny things that happen in the day to day life of an elementary school student. The kids had a blast!

This week in reading we continued to discuss what an avid reader looks like and some good reading habits that truly "avid" readers use everytime they read! Students spent time noticing how they were feeling while reading and connecting to the way the characters were feeling in their "just right" books.

In Writer's Workshop, we began an informational writing unit all about writing "How-To" books. The children used everything they learned in our narrative unit to begin writing stories that teach their reader how to do something. They learned that good "How-To" books are written in steps, the steps are numbered, and each step has it's own page in the book. You can help your student be successful in this unit by brainstorming topics they might write about.

In math we continued with Unit 5, *Build a Block, Build a Wall*. The children continued to learn about different 3-D shapes and their many attributes. One new game that the children learned is called "Geoblock Match-Up". The object of this game is for the children to find a geoblock that exactly matches one of the outlines of a shape on their gameboard. Another new game that the children learned is called "Build a Block". The object of this game is for the children to combine different small geoblocks to make a large geoblock. Therefore, the children are working on combining 3-D shapes to make a replica of a given 3-D shape. The last activity that the children learned is called "Making Geoblocks with Cubes". In this activity, the children were given connecting cubes to build a block that is similar in shape and size to one of their geoblocks. Please continue to talk to your child about 2-D and 3-D shapes at home!

In science, Mrs. Nestle's class learned all about living and nonliving things and spent time observing them inside and outside the school. Mrs. Kline's class learned how to use a thermometer and measured the temperature of two cups of water. The children also observed and recorded the weather and temperature outside. Mrs. Sisson's class continued learning about forces and motion. They experimented with different objects to find different ways to make them move. They determined that in order of an object to start moving another object must exert a force on it.

In Foundations, we have continued to practice tapping out and reading three letter words (consonant-vowel-consonant or cvc) words. We also began uppercase letter practice by reviewing how to write uppercase letters, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and H. We added the words **went** and **come** to our word wall this week.

Have a wonderful long weekend! Happy Martin Luther King Day!

Best,

The Kindergarten Team

+++ Updates and reminders on the back!

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

Updates and Reminders:

- **No School: Monday, January 21st**
- 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.
- Please make sure you sign the report card envelope and return ASAP.
- As the winter weather continues please make sure that your child has labeled hats, gloves, scarves, etc. As it gets dryer out, please feel free to keep labeled lip balm and hand lotion in your child's backpack.
- Don't forget to look at the Highlands' Website at <http://danverspublicschools.org/highlands/>