

Ms. Dionysia's Classroom Connection

A Peek at the Week

Here are some of the activities/projects the children were engaged in this week:

- DynaMath-This week the students read nonfiction articles that connected math concepts like subtraction, multiplication and division. They read an article titled Record Setting Slumber. They learned that a species of dormouse from Europe can sleep for 346 days straight!! This is the second longest sleep of any mammal. Scientist in Austria made the discovery. The pygmy possum has the longest recorded sleep for a mammal: 367 days. After analyzing the article and discussing it, the children solved word problems that involved them to subtract with regrouping. The next article the students read was titled Lifesaving Fan. They learned that an 11-year old boy from Texas created a device to keep children safe if they're trapped in hot cars. He called it the Oasis, it keeps babies and toddlers cool if they're in danger from being in a hot car. His device uses GPS and sensors to detect whether a child is alone in a hot car and alerts the child's parents and emergency workers. To spark their engagement, the class had a discussion on the following questions: Do you think the Oasis device is beneficial to parents? Why or why not? After reading the article, the students work in pairs to solve word problems using division and multiplication.
- Wonder-The students are loving Wonder!! After each assigned reading the children are involved in answering check in discussions questions: What choices did individuals make in the chapters you just read? What alternative choices could have been made? Why do you think those choices were made? These types of questions lead to great discussion of empathy and friendship.
- Engineering Challenge-The students were encouraged to build an ornament using craft sticks. The students turned their craft sticks into snowflakes, trees, stars, snowman, reindeers, and sleds!

The Secrets of Vesuvius/Ancient Rome Exploration

- Culminating Activity-Secrets of Vesuvius Novel -Students chose their favorite scene from the novel to create their own comic strip. The students had to include drawings and dialogue between the characters.
- Roman Villas- Engineer groups continued to present their Ancient Roman Villas to the class.
- Roman Numerals-This week the students practiced and reviewed their Roman numerals by creating their own Roman Numeral Bingo game. In this activity the children strengthen their addition and multiplication skills. In addition, they helped their buddies from Ms. Bia's class to write their birthdates in Roman Numerals.

Brain Teasers

The tallest snowman recorded was about 120 feet tall. The tallest Egyptian pyramid is about 4 times that tall. How tall is the pyramid?

(answer to last brain teaser- (6 x 6))

Events and Reminders

Khan Academy-Students should be visiting Khan daily and completing assigned assignments.

12/12 Field trip to Prairie Lakes Theater

12/15 Holiday Program 10 am at Bridge Community Church

12/19 Wonder Movie Field Trip- more details to follow

12/21 Early Dismissal 1:30 pm

12/22 - 1/5 Winter Break