

08/31/2018

Hi Room 6 Parents,

Happy Friday! Here are just a few highlights from our AMAZING week 2--

- Each day your kids used the clocks in our room to determine what time they arrived in the morning and then signed in for the day. Telling time enforces number sense and brings up mathematical concepts such as rounding, addition, subtraction, etc. This has been such a great exercise and I have already seen a growth in the kids being able to answer questions for themselves such as: "Is it time for snack now?" We have also used the morning time to practice adding with money. Using the plastic coins we have in the classroom, they make 38 cents, \$1.22, etc. I love that they are always up for my challenge...can you make the same amount but with different coins?
- Our snake exploration has continued with our new novel, *Snake and Lizard* by Joy Cowley. The story is about two unlikely friends who argue, but always resolve their conflict to continue their friendship. We have learned about snakes and laughed along the way. We will continue to read and write chapter summaries in the coming weeks. We have also continued our snake exploration through various National Geographic and Animal Planet video clips, songs, and resource books. I do apologize if you hear the Green Anaconda Song a few hundred times :) I know how catchy it is! [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F000UK\\_kUq4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F000UK_kUq4)
- We started working with Reading Buddies in Ms. Dionysia's class this week. They have helped us learn more about what artifacts we can put in our time capsule. The buddies created a list of favorite things; measured heights, hands, and feet; and drew self portraits together.
- Our classroom now has a poster full of adjectives used to describe Cornflake. See if your kids know what an adjective is! It's a new word for us so we'll keep working on it. While describing Cornflake, we identified some of his colors-- gold, red/orange, black, etc. This led us to make homemade playdough in colors to match Cornflake AND led us to use various fruits to make snake models and practice making patterns. Making playdough was an awesome opportunity to practice literacy when reading the recipe, fractions when measuring, and build class community as we created something together.
- I cannot say enough about how much your kids have impressed me with their math brains! During our number talks, they have bravely accepted each challenge and confidently identified any mathematical errors they made as they change their answers throughout our full class conversation. I truly believe this speaks volumes about their problem solving skills AND their trust in each other. I encourage you to ask your kids how many classes of ten students they would create if there were 93 students in a school. The answers we discussed were both mathematically sound and creative!

Next week we will begin our visits to the library. While it is something we will be discussing as well, I think it is great to start talking with your kids about what makes a good fit book for their independent reading level.

Thank you for all that you do! Have a wonderful long weekend. See you on Tuesday!



