

09/21/2018

Hi Room 6 Parents,

How is it Friday already?! This week flew by! Here are a few highlights for you:

-We took our long jump morning challenge to the next level by using Friday's jump to predict how far we could jump on Monday. This was an opportunity to combine prediction, measuring, subtraction, and physical activity. Some students hypothesized they would be able to jump much farther while others thought their jump may decrease by as much as 20 inches! After measuring with rulers, students were challenged to use the rulers to create artwork that included straight lines.

-On Tuesday we went on our first bank visit! The bank visits are a great way for students to practice addition and money counting. Interacting with the bank tellers is also an opportunity to practice social skills like eye contact and greetings. If you would like to sign your child up for a bank account, please see the link in the parent notes email or feel free to reach out--I would be happy to help!

-On Wednesday, our hypothesizing continued when we used four tests (push, pickup, pour, and shape) to determine some principles of liquids and solids. Before we conducted each test, we predicted how water or unifix cubes would react. Then we created the magical substance, **Oobleck**, from the book, *Bartholomew and the Oobleck*. This cornstarch and water mixture brought up a whole new series of hypotheses! After predicting, we actually tested the oobleck we had made. Students laughed as they realized that oobleck didn't perfectly match as a liquid or as a solid! What an excellent chance for students to use logic and reasoning to determine which of our tests was most important to them and ultimately determine how they would classify oobleck! Beyond our science and reasoning, we used the story of oobleck to invent our own national holiday or choose what we would have fall from the sky. The world would be super interesting if it was up to our class...the skies would rain things like tacos or legos and we would have holidays solely dedicated to making crafts! So much fun!

-This week we finished reading our novel, *Snake and Lizard*. We will continue to wrap up our chapter summaries and will continue writing some chapters of our own too. Student written chapters have often included members from our own class! I really enjoy seeing and hearing the kids relate to the story in this way. Stay tuned for our next SWEET novel study :)

-As noted last week, we have continued our study of chess through *The Story of Pawn*. I want to pass along the following link with research to support the study of chess: <https://www.parents.com/kids/development/intellectual/benefits-of-chess/> I love seeing how much we have learned in just a few sessions. Walking back from recess on Thursday,

students were pretending to be different chess pieces (rooks by running forward or sideways; bishops by zigzagging back and forth; pawns by only hopping one space at a time; or knights by "flying" over others and moving in the shape of an "L")! I am looking forward to what else we will learn and our class chess tournament!

A few notes:

- Your kids have two **HOMEWORK** assignments over the weekend! Please have your kids show you how molecules vary between solids, liquids, and gases. I have been referring to this as the "molecule dance" :)! I have also asked our class to come in on Monday with some ideas about why Cornflake's eyes were blue and cloudy this week. This is a good chance to work **TOGETHER!** :) with your child to practice hypothesizing, researching, and nonfiction reading.
- Just a quick reminder that picture day is this Tuesday
- Thank you for using our class code when placing Scholastic orders. Using the code reward points, I was able to order seven new books to added to our classroom!





