



Miss Johnson

SECOND GRADE SCOOP



Room 6

September 19, 2008

Week at a Glance:

Nate the Great Puzzle Day-- We had so many parents volunteer items and their time!

Thank you! Everyone had a great time!

Reading--We read Dragon Gets By, a silly story about a Dragon who has trouble understanding what it means to have a balanced diet. We started using "Think-Aloud" strategies to help our comprehension when we read. We will be working on six different think aloud strategies to help us focus and concentrate in order to better understand what we are reading. With this story we emphasized summarizing. Ask your child to give you a summary of Dragon Gets By.

- Acquiring new vocabulary is useful in improving reading and writing skills. The students practiced looking up vocabulary words in their glossaries. Encourage your child to use a children's dictionary to explore new words!

- We also worked on answering comprehension questions. The students learned to look carefully at the question to find a sentence starter to use when answering in a complete sentence. We practiced looking back in the story to find information for our answers.

Writing--Step Up to Writing--We have also learned about using Step Up to Writing strategies to improve our journal writing. The students practiced using the color coding process to develop a topic sentence, three detail sentences and a conclusion. Each week they will write about a different topic.

Math--We worked on solving addition problems this week. We discussed the various strategies used to remember sums up to 20 and adding with 9. Please continue to practice number facts at home it is imperative that they learn their facts with sums to 20 by the end of Second Grade!

• Math Test: The first math unit test is coming home in the Friday Folder. Please review the test with your child. They will continue to practice many of the same skills on their 5 -a-day review.

Flat Stanley--Our latest novel is about a charming boy who became flat after a bulletin board fell on top of him! Stanley is able to do many different things while he is flat, which lead to a very adventurous life! The children love this book. I encourage your child to check out other Flat Stanley books. The students will write their own stories about becoming flat, and they will share these with a second grade pen pal from Springer!

Science--Balance and Motion is the new unit we are studying in science. We will be observing and comparing how objects balance, spin, and roll. This week we learned about measuring tools as we studied a meter. We learned how the meter is divided up into 100 centimeters. We worked on estimation and measured items from our desks.

Social Studies--This week we learned about primary sources (an eyewitness account of an event), secondary sources (something that gives information about an event that has already happened), documents (important papers) and artifacts (objects made and used by people). Family histories can be traced through primary and secondary sources. See if you can find examples from your family's history to share with your children! Look for some of these ideas: a journal, encyclopedia, birth certificate, or heirloom.

•Don't forget the Long Ago and Yesterday Project is due Friday, September 26th. I can't wait to see what your children have learned about their relatives!

Dates To Remember:

Long Ago and Yesterday Project Due--Friday, September 26th

San Jose History Park--Thursday, October 2nd--bag lunch needed!

HELP STILL NEEDED:

Writer's Workshop (Thursdays: 9-9:35): In desperate need of a few more helpers!!

Friday Folder Stuffers (March, May, June): Fridays after or during lunch

Silent Auction Parents: Need one more parent to help coordinate!

Garden Parent: We have a budget! If you're not a gardener, could you help coordinate help? (ie Boy Scouts, Brownie Troop, etc.)

Have a wonderful weekend!!

Miss Johnson