



February News



Topics of the Month

In math, we will conclude our unit on decomposing and comparing numbers and we will begin to work on measuring items with non-standard units and comparing length, height, weight, and size. (Try going on a measurement scavenger hunt to practice measuring.) Bring along a non-standard unit of your choice such as strips of paper, paper clips, or even your shoe! Compare the items— are they longer, taller, or shorter?

Make sure to use measurement vocabulary!

In ELA, students will finish their narrative pieces and begin writing informational how-to texts and we will incorporate some research. Writers will practice working with their partners to follow each other's steps and give each other suggestions if a step is unclear. Students will focus on drawing diagrams using labels and details.

For our fourth IB unit, we will begin to work on "How The World Works", using our senses to describe the world around us. We will delve into classifying, sorting, and observing rocks and soil as well as inquiring about forces of motion and gravity. At home, try creating a parachute and drop it from the top of your bannister. Can you change it to make it drop faster or stay in the air longer?

Upcoming Important Dates

- 2/1 100th Day of School
- 2/2 Groundhog Day
- 2/9 Father/Daughter Skate Night
- 2/14 VIP DAY/ Valentine's Day Exchange
- 2/15 Valentine's Day Rotations
- 2/16 Snow Make-up Day
- 2/19 No School— President's Day
- 2/20 No School— RFF Day

Standards for the Month

Math

MGSEK.MD.1 Describe several measurable attributes of an object, such as length or weight. For example, a student may describe a shoe as, "This shoe is heavy! It is long!"

MGSEK.MD.2 Directly compare two objects with a measurable attribute in common, to see which object has "more of"/"less of" the attribute, and describe the difference. Example, directly compare the heights of two children and describe one child as taller/shorter.

MGSEK.MD.3 Classify objects into given categories; count the numbers in each category and sort the categories by count. (Limit category counts to less than or equal to 10)

Science

SK2. Students will describe the physical attributes of rocks and soils.

- a. Use senses to observe and group rocks by physical attributes such as large/small, heavy/light, smooth/rough, dark/light, etc.
- b. Use senses to observe soils by physical attributes such as smell, texture, color, particle/grain size.
- c. Recognize earth materials— soil, rocks, water, air, etc.

SKP2. Students will investigate different types of motion.

- a. Sort objects into categories according to their motion. (straight, zigzag, round and round, back and forth, fast and slow, and motionless)
- b. Push, pull, and roll common objects and describe their motions.

SKP3. Students will observe and communicate effects of gravity on objects.

- a. Recognize that some things, such as airplanes and birds, are in the sky, but return to earth.
- b. Recognize that the sun, moon, and stars are in the sky, but don't come down.
- c. Explain why a book does not fall down if it is placed on a table, but will fall down if it is dropped.

Writing

ELAGSEKW2: Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose informative/explanatory texts in which they name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic.

Reading

ELAGSEKRF3: Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.

ELAGSEKRI6: Name the author and illustrator of a text and define the role of each in presenting the ideas or information in a text.

ELAGSEKRL10: Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.

ELAGSEKRL1: With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text

February Challenge:

The Chinese New Year began February 16th. Did you know it is the year of the dog?

Read more about the Chinese New Year here:

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/chinesenewyear/chinesenewyear.aspx>

What is the Lantern Festival of Chinese New Year?

The Chinese New Year ends with the Lantern Festival on the fifteenth day of the celebration. Some of the lanterns may be works of art, painted with birds, animals, flowers, zodiac signs, and scenes from legend and history. People hang glowing lanterns in temples, and carry lanterns to an evening parade under the light of the full moon.

Make A Chinese Paper Lantern! There are easy directions on

<http://www.china-family-adventure.com/how-to-make-chinese-lanterns.html>

