

Dear Parents,

**Phonics/Penmanship:**

Due to the short week, we will not be introducing new word wall words. Please continue to practice all introduced words at home. Students should be able to read and spell each word in a snap!

We have introduced contractions. A contraction is a shortened form of one or two words. In a contraction, an apostrophe takes the place of the missing letter or letters. Some contractions are: it's (it is), I'm (I am), can't (cannot), how's (how is).

**Reading Workshop:**

Below are questions that are used in the classroom to extend thinking. Please use them at home while reading with your child. A copy will be coming home in your child's folder.

Question Stems

<p><b>Thinking Within the Text</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ What was the problem in the story? What did _____ do to solve the problem?</li> <li>✓ What happened in the story? How did the story end?</li> <li>✓ Explain what you learned in this book. What did you learn about _____?</li> <li>✓ What were some important facts about _____ in this book?</li> <li>✓ What information did you learn from the (chart, map, label, graph, photo, drawing, glossary)? What kind of information does it give you?</li> </ul>
<p><b>Thinking Beyond the Text</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Tell me some ways _____ and _____ are alike/different.</li> <li>✓ Tell me how _____ felt when _____. Why?</li> <li>✓ Why is _____ important?</li> <li>✓ How does _____ change? What does _____ learn?</li> <li>✓ How do you think _____ felt when (or about) _____?</li> <li>✓ Why do you think _____? Can you give an example from the book?</li> <li>✓ Make a prediction about _____. How do you know something is going to happen here?</li> <li>✓ What does the writer say that makes you think that?</li> <li>✓ What is a question you still have about _____?</li> <li>✓ What lesson did _____ learn?</li> <li>✓ What was the value of _____ to _____?</li> </ul>
<p><b>Thinking About the Text</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Is this a good title for this story? Why (not)?</li> <li>✓ What makes the title, _____ a good one for this book?</li> <li>✓ What did _____ learn? How do you know this?</li> <li>✓ Why do you think the writer said _____?</li> <li>✓ What did the writer mean by _____?</li> <li>✓ Show the sections of the book and tell the kind of information in each section.</li> <li>✓ How does the heading help you read the book?</li> <li>✓ How did the writer help you understand _____?</li> <li>✓ How did the writer make this book interesting?</li> <li>✓ Look at the way the writer began the book. What did the writer do to get you interested in the topic?</li> <li>✓ What side do you think the writer is on? Why?</li> <li>✓ What is the significance of _____?</li> <li>✓ Why do you think the writer wrote this book in 1<sup>st</sup> (or 3<sup>rd</sup>) person?</li> <li>✓ What genre did the writer use? What makes you think that?</li> <li>✓ Look at the way the writer ended the book. Do you think this is a good way to end? Why or why not?</li> <li>✓ Give an example of a description the writer used to show what _____ was like.</li> <li>✓ What was the most important part of the story and why?</li> <li>✓ Find the part in the story where _____.</li> <li>✓ What did the writer mean when s/he said _____?</li> <li>✓ What was the writer's message?</li> <li>✓ The writer used specific words/phrases to describe _____. Can you give examples?</li> <li>✓ How did the writer let you know that something exciting was going to happen (foreshadowing)? Find examples from the text.</li> <li>✓ Look back at the text and find some powerful descriptive words. Explain what they mean.</li> </ul>

## **Writing**

Last week we asked you to help your child brainstorm topics that they would like to review. This week your child will be getting their very own *Tiny Topic Notebook*.

This notebook will serve as a place to store ideas for future reviews. Some ideas are movies like Frozen and Big Hero 6 or restaurants like Super Duper Weenie and Bear and Grill. They can also review places they've gone on vacation to like Disney or Atlantis. The topics are endless!

**Please note:** Your child may be bringing their notebook home to continue to write their topic ideas. The notebook **MUST** come back to school each day. Thank you!

## **Math**

This week we will begin to explore 3-D shapes. Here are some great websites that your child used during Tech. time that you may want to try at home. Your child should be able to identify a cube, cylinder, pyramid, sphere, rectangular prism and a cone.

<http://www.e-learningforkids.org/math/lesson/school-bus-3d-objects/>

<http://www.e-learningforkids.org/math/lesson/world-of-fish-3d-space-size/>

Respectfully yours,  
Allison Cabezas  
Debbie Jacobs  
Maureen Rojee