

Throughout the month of September your child learned about and practiced the rules and routines of our classroom. They participated in various community building activities that set the tone for a respectful learning environment throughout the year and that foster a classroom of trust.

The month of September was dedicated to “All About Me”. Every day we picked a Star student of the day. That student was interviewed. We wrote a story about that student and read the story aloud. The class then each wrote something about that student that was compiled into a book. It was a highlight of the day! Everyone has not had a turn yet and we will continue to have a Start student of the day through October too!

**Readers Workshop**

This month your child started Readers Workshop. During this time the students learned the various reading routines and rules. They explored the classroom library, learned how to choose appropriate just-right books, and learned different ways to share/discuss books with a partner.

* Students will begin reading groups and they will bring home a word ring with their new book bag and books to be practice at home.

**Word Study**

During the month of September, we began our first grade word study program. We begin with student name activates that asked students to read each other’s names while finding similarities and differences amongst them. Students explored different word patterns found in our names as they learn to read and write them. We began with short vowel sounds. We started with short a word families such as –at, -ag, and –ap.

**Writing Workshop**

During the writer’s workshop launch students learned various rules and routines. They learned how to write a small moment by choosing writing topics called seed ideas, how to plan for writing, and ways to read their work and fix any “oops” mistakes they might have made. We also focused on stretching words out to spell the best that we can, used different forms of punctuation, and included character feelings to bring a story to life.

**Math**

We began the year in math with graphing. Students were asked to create survey questions, collect data, represent the data in the form of a graph, and write a meaningful comment about the information they found. Once graphing was completed we moved on to basic addition skills. (doubles, skip counting, near doubles)

The students are also enjoying our new math corner where we are practicing various skills such as calendar, shapes, money, story problems and much more.

**Science**

The students started their first science unit on Recycling and ways to take care of their planet, Earth. Using our classroom recyclables from home we created an abstract sculpture.

**Upcoming Announcements or Events**

* Walk-A Thon: October 14th
* Conference Dates: Early Dismissal
  + Thursday October 20th and Wednesday October 26th (Night)
  + Thursday October 27th (Day)
* Monday October 31st: Halloween Parade