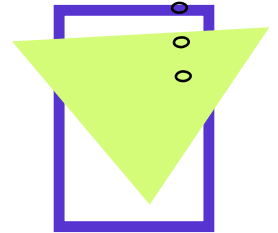


November 7, 2008

Volume 3, Issue 3

4Si FourSight

Hunnewell
Elementary School



Conversation Starters

- What are the five steps to the “Better Answer Strategy” for open response questions? How does this strategy make for better answers?
- What genre do you think the book The White Giraffe is, and what makes you think that?
- What do you think the main difference is between the black and white story and your Relatives Came story? What improvements are you most proud of as you compare the two stories?
- Looking forward to our study of biography picture books, who are you most hoping to read about?



Mathematics

Our current unit has challenged us to organize data that we have collected, represent the data in a way that is easy to read, and analyze, compare, and draw conclusions between two different groups of data.

Our study of probability this week offers yet another way to analyze data.

Assessment: Thursday, 11/13

Next Unit: Multiplication and Division

Reading

Our nonfiction reading has allowed us to study Presidential candidates and use thinking skills like determining fact and opinion and compare and contrast as we look at the candidates' differences. On November 4, Hunnewell students voted for President of the United States. We are currently reading The White Giraffe, by Lauren St. John, where we look at the elements of a

What We're Studying

myth, practice context clues, and consider how dialect changes mood and tone in a story as the story takes place in South Africa.

Next Unit: Biography Picture Book Genre Study

Writing

Each student is writing a story about visiting relatives as we try to replicate the style Cynthia Rylant uses in her book, The Relatives Came. Our next step is to attach the beginning and end and add even more details.

Social Studies

The compass rose, key/legend, and scale on maps, atlases and globes have been our focus this past week. As we begin our landforms work we also explore elevation, longitude and latitude. The Geography Picture Dictionary (GPD) is a long-term project that has a large at home component. The work starts with in-class research and

continues at home with creating a published glossary of terms. Students will need to independently manage their time with the at home portion of the project.

Project Due Date: Tuesday, 11/25

Next Unit: Science Water Cycle

Open Circle

The White Giraffe hits home with Open Circle as the story's theme of accepting children who are different becomes very apparent. Students are already beginning to notice that stories we read aloud not only help us become better readers by practicing high-level skills as a group, but they also allow us to make connections to real-life social situations. Who would have thought that Hunnewell School and a private school in Cape Town, South Africa can have some of the same issues? Topics that we have been discussing include: reading nonverbal signals, teasing and bullying. We have changed our format to meet twice a week for a shorter amount of time.



A Few Notes

Wish List

Thank you for all the spray cleaner; we have enough for now!

Shopping

Students are beginning to borrow pencil lead for mechanical pencils. Please add lead to your shopping lists.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://TeacherWeb.com/MA/Hunnewell/34S/plc.com>

All newsletters are posted online

