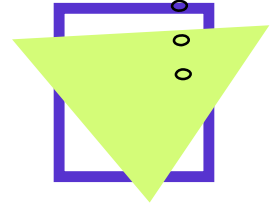


May 20, 2009

Volume 3, Issue 9

4Si FourSight

Hunnewell
Elementary School



What We're Studying

Conversation Starters

- There is a connection between the book Year of the Dog and Project Mulberry. What do you think the connection is about?
- What are the categories that make up our US economy?
- How does your research project relate to the region's land, economy, and culture?
- How is the memoir story you wrote similar to the personal narrative stories you have written this year?
- Division can be hard. What is another way to solve a division problem without doing division?
- How do rocks and minerals move around, in, and on our earth?

Mathematics

We are working with estimating and finding products of large multiplication problems. This is very similar to our work with smaller problems where we break apart numbers by tens and then think of a story that could fit the situation. Being able to visualize a picture of the expression is important for understanding that multiplying is about making groups of things. We call the pictures we make "representations."

Next Unit: Functions and Change

Science

Rocks and Minerals have us thinking about where they come from and how the rock cycle works. Our geology walk will be coming up in June (see important dates below).

Reading

Seymour Simon is very interesting. We practiced finding the main idea. We learned that important details always relate back to the main idea. If the fact is not related it would be considered an interesting fact.

Next Unit: Mildred D. Taylor Author Study

Social Studies

We are finished our study of the Northeast region on Monday and have moved on to the Midwest. 4Si students will be teaching 4L and 4Su students about the Midwest, while they teach us about the West and Southeast, respectively. Our thinking about the regions always revolves around the land, economy, and culture. We are looking forward to comparing the regions at the end of the year!

Writing

We learned a lot about personal narrative writing and now we are taking that experience to write a memoir piece about a family story. We had to research and interview someone in our family. Now, we are working on turning the story into a picture book. It is all very exciting to share our stories and learn about what the world was like long ago. Grace Lin's visit has helped us to understand the process of the making a picture book.

Research Project

All of fourth grade has started working on the end-of-year research project. It is a big deal, because we get to use everything we have learned this year and apply it to a topic that interests us. It is exciting but the scope of the project is large. Please help your child manage this project by helping manage the calendar, watching for organization of information as it is added to the folders, and by continuing to ask questions about their progress.

Notes

Classroom Visits

Hunnewell PTO is sponsoring a morning titled: Men Read at Hunnewell on Monday, **June 1**, 8:45-9:30 am. To participate please call Barbara O'Brien at the school office 781.446.6275 x400. She will be happy to give you the details and add you to our

reading schedule.

Author's Celebration – June 15, 8:30-9:15 am. Come celebrate all the wonderful creativity experienced this year.

Research Project Presentation June 18, 8:10 students arrive to set up, 8:15 parents welcomed, 9:00 grade 3 visits.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

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

All newsletters are posted online