

November 2014

It's hard to believe that one-third of the school year has already passed. I have really enjoyed working with this group of students. They have been working hard to learn all that we need to learn in order to be ready for the fifth grade next year.

In Reading we are continuing to work on the skills they need to be more fluent readers. We have also been using different techniques to try to become better at comprehend what we read. Specifically, we have been spending a great deal of time with making inferences, making predictions, and context clues. We soon will be working on cause and effect and text features.

In ELA we have been focusing on chronological ordering and context clues. Our next units are root words, multiple meaning words, and sentence types. This will take us into December. Working with context clues will help us attach meaning to multiple meaning words and our affix unit will help students when we start to learn about root words.

In Math we have just started dividing. Students will be required to complete the operation for four digit dividends and one digit divisors. They will also need to be able to model and explain the work that they do in these areas. A big emphasis is being placed on word problems and open-ended questions.

In Science we are starting a unit on states of matter. In this unit we will be learning about what causes the different states of matter and at what point the states of matter change. Students will be learning about gases, liquids, and solids. In our weather unit we will related this information to the understanding of weather patterns and movements.

In Social Studies we have just started a unit on exploration. This unit will take us until Christmas. It will lead to our colonization unit in January.