

2nd Grade News

Week of May 23-
May 27

Reading/Language Arts

This week we will work on comparing and contrasting the most important points in 2 or more texts on the same topic. In order to be considered important, a detail must relate back to the main idea. We will read 3 short texts about how animals survive hot weather. We will try to only pull out the most important details about the different ways animals stay cool. This also ties in perfectly with our current science unit on animal adaptations. We will write our own informational text synthesizing all the information we learn.

At the end of the week, we will do a mini poetry review with animal-themed poems. We will discuss how authors use special techniques like rhyme, alliteration, repetition, and similes/ metaphors to add rhythm and meaning to a text.

Important Dates

Tuesday, May 24th-
Book Fair Night

Friday, May 27th-
ADDitions Celebration

Monday, May 30th-
Memorial Day/
No School

Math

We are moving on to one of the mostly highly anticipated third grade skills: multiplication! I previously introduced the concept of multiplication through repeated addition and equal groups. We will continue to lay the foundation for multiplication by using manipulatives to model equal groups and using skip counting and repeated addition to find the total amount. Third grade really focuses on memorizing multiplication facts, but it is incredibly important for students to understand what multiplication actually *means* before they begin memorizing facts.

Social Studies/Science

This week we will focus on the 5 groups of vertebrate animals: mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, and reptiles. We will identify the characteristics of each group and use them to classify animals. We will also study the specific habitats of animals in each group.

This week is Music Show and Tell. Students can bring in instruments, pianos, books, or their own music on the day their class has Music. Ms. Buckley is allowing iPods and iPads for electronic music, but HIGHLY recommends CDs instead since they have a lower replacement value if something were to happen. If students plan to have the class listen to a song from the radio, that song needs to be preapproved. Instruments, singing a cappella (meaning no background music), books, and kids songs do not need to be approved.