



Tall Tales from the Giraffes
Monday, December 8, 2008



Literacy Focus- Alphabet Books, Reading and recognizing each students' name, Letters and Sounds A-Z
Writing Letters~ Frog Jump Capitals (E,F,D,B,P, R,N,M)
H, K, L, U, V, W,X, Y, Z
(These are the letters we have covered. Encourage your child to write these letters correctly.)

Over and Over words-

I, see, like, the, we, can, is (color words), be, and, you, am ,it, said, with, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, what, where, my, **who**



Science/Social Science Focus- Winter/Holiday Traditions



Math Focus- Collecting Data/Graphing



Mystery Musician~ Mrs. R.~ Friday, Dec. 12 11:30-11:50
This Friday we will have a mystery musician. Ben's mom will play the piano for a Christmas carol sing a long. Let me know if we have other musicians~ you can be our Mystery Musician, too!



The month of December is filled with excitement and anticipation. It's a great time of year to spend everyday with a group of 5 year olds. Their sense of joy and excitement is contagious!

If you've heard "Run, Run as fast as you can" around your house lately that's because we have been reading different versions of The Gingerbread Man. We tasted gingerbread, made a graph, collected data and found out how many people in our class liked gingerbread and how many didn't like it. We are even making a gingerbread surprise for you! Several of our homework activities this week focus on the story The Gingerbread Man.

Thank You !

A special thank you to Mrs. K. and Mrs. J. for painting the wall in the pit area! The plan is for Mrs. D. and some of the art students to create a mural on the wall. It's a vision I've had for a few years and I appreciate the willingness of Mrs. K. and Mrs. J. to get us started!

Scholastic Book Orders

Thanks for the Scholastic book orders. We will send them home as soon as the books arrive!

Santa Shop~

The PTO is sponsoring a Santa shop where your child can shop for family members. Our class will visit the Santa shop on Tuesday. At that time, your child will be able to make a wish list of items to buy for family members. Money for the Santa shop can be sent in on Wednesday. As always, please make sure you send \$ in an envelope with your child's name and what it's for on the outside of the envelope.

Did you Know?

The AUM students finished their Reading internship with us last week. The students did a great job with our kindergartners. Your child brought home a writing workshop folder last week they created with their AUM student. (Some members of our class worked with me and they did not create a writing workshop folder. We did other writing activities). Overall, I think all of our students benefited from the small group reading instruction.

The READ 180 students are sponsoring a reading time around the Christmas tree. Our class will visit with them a few times this month for some special stories.

Save those BOX TOPS for Education !!

We are still collecting them. This is a great fundraiser for the PTO and our school!



Homework for this week:

(These homework activities are designed to reinforce skills/concepts and to give your child an opportunity to share with you. These items are home activities and do not need to be brought to school unless stated.)

READ TO YOUR CHILD DAILY!

Monday	<p>Sight Word Game</p> <p>Write a simple sentence leaving out an over and over word. Have your child fill in the missing sight word.</p> <p>Ex: I like to eat cake _____ ice cream. (with)</p> <p>Coco _____ jump up and down. (can)</p> <p>We _____ lights on our tree. (see)</p>								
Tuesday	<p>Read the booklet we made at school today to someone.</p> <p><u>Who needs a tree?</u></p> <p>Visit this link---Decorate a gingerbread man and send an e-card to someone you love!</p> <p>http://www.theoworlds.com/christmas/</p>								
Wednesday	<p>Write a surprise note to put in someone's lunchbox. You can draw a picture and write a note to put in a brother or sister's lunchbox or mom or dad's lunchbox! Do your best!</p>								
Thursday	<p>Collect and analyze data.</p> <p>Take a survey. Make a graph. Find out do you have more TV's in your house or more ceiling fans?</p> <p>Here is a sample graph below:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="440 1598 1458 1780"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>TV's</td> <td>Ceiling fans</td> </tr> </table>							TV's	Ceiling fans
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Extra									

	<p>Dial A Story (Montgomery Public Library System)</p> <p>240-4987</p> <p>244-5719</p> <p>Visit this link. Have someone read the story to you.</p> <p>Tell someone how this version of The Gingerbread Man was alike or different than the stories we read in class.</p> <p>http://www.topmarks.co.uk/stories/gingerbread10.htm</p>
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Volunteer Opportunities:

(Just email me if want to volunteer.)

Paper Cutter~ I need someone to use the paper cutter to cut and organize pieces of construction paper. The students will be creating a special book over the next few weeks. Times and days are flexible. If you are interested, please email me.

Holiday Arts/Crafts~ Do you have a holiday art idea or craft idea you would like to make with our class? We have some time available during our "free choice" time on Wednesday or Friday afternoons. Just let me know if you are interested in doing something.

Journal Writers ---

Needed every Thursday morning 8:00-8:30 ish.

Important Dates:

December 17~Holiday Meal at school (Parents are invited to join their children for a special holiday lunch.
Our lunch time will be 10:35-11:05

December 18~ Wear your PJ's to school for our Polar Express day!
You won't need to bring/buy lunch today, we'll eat brunch aboard the Polar Express!

B.T.

Whatever It Takes!

PTO Blog

For all PTO information this year!

<http://www.mespto.typepad.com/>