

Stokes' Class Clarion
Web-page Issue #11
Weeks of February 1 to 29, 2008

Language! Listings

We are studying the following reading and spelling skills in our *Language!* Program:

- 1.) Reading and spelling words with the consonant le endings like ble, dle, gle, fle, zle, ple and ckle. We are reviewing the two good choices for the final (k) sound, digraph ck or just a final letter k.
- 2.) Reading and spelling with vowel pairs such as oa as in "boat," ow as in "snow" and oe as in "toe." We are also reading and spelling with consonant cluster dge as in "badge" and ge as in "hinge."

Math Musings

We are learning/reviewing these topics in math:

1. Solving Multi-step Division Story Problems
2. Measurement in Inches and Centimeters
3. Perimeter
4. Lines of Symmetry
5. Ordered Pairs on a Cartesian Plane
6. Multiplication Tables up to Fours
7. Lines and Line Segments

We are continuing reading a math read-aloud entitled Math for Smarty Pants by Marilyn Burns. We are enjoying the sections on the geometry of numbers such as three being a triangular number.

Scientifically Speaking

In Science, we are studying the solar system. Here are some of our topics of earth science:

- a. Outer Planets
- b. Inner Planets
- c. Distance Between the Planets
- d. Orbits
- e. Temperature
- f. Atmospheres

Socially Speaking

In Social Studies, we are studying school time, free time, and lunch time in the most important building in the 19th Century rural community, the school. We are comparing 19th Century education to 21st Century education. Here are some of our topics:

- a. Lunches Then and Now
- b. Recess and Free Time, Who Has More?
- c. Lunch Foods in the 19th versus 21st Centuries
- d. Recess Activities in the 19th versus 21st Centuries

Powerful Writing

We are writing descriptive paragraphs and paragraphs that employ a sequence of events.

In our descriptive paragraphs, we start by choosing a common classroom object. In the first sentence we state the object's name and category. In the succeeding sentences, we describe the attributes of the object, formulate a creative comparison with the object, and use a synonym for the object.

We are currently using descriptive writing techniques to describe a pencil.

Vocabulary Victories

Our three newest six vocabulary words are *ponder*, *pester*, *confer*, *vast*, *pigment*, and *pallid*. Ask us to tell you what each word means and what job it does within a sentence.