

November Newsletter
4th Grade



Reading

The reading focus for November is a continuation of our study of historical and scientific texts, focusing on how information is presented through a variety of structures. Students draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, and reflection when writing about topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information. Mid-November, our reading focus will shift to a study of nonfiction, including how information is presented visually, orally, and quantitatively, explaining how authors use reasons and evidence.

Math

Students have recently completed unit 2 and have now begun unit 3. The main focus of this new unit is fractions and decimals. We will explore many concepts, including: the idea that fractions are equal shares; representing fractions with circles and number lines; generating equivalent fractions; comparing and ordering fractions and decimals; modeling, reading, and writing fractions and decimals to the hundredths; studying centimeters and millimeters; and understanding the relationship between fractions and decimals. We will take the next test sometime before or after Thanksgiving.

Writing

We are starting our work on our Informational writing unit. In the upcoming weeks your child will select a Native American tribe that they will write their first five paragraph essay. We are completing our graphic organizers in class and will begin writing our essay in the coming weeks. Please keep in mind that if your child is a slower working you may need to add some support time to work on writing at home. Late-November, the writing focus shifts to opinion writing. Students will write an opinion piece on topics supporting a point of view with reasons and information in which they introduce the topic clearly, state an opinion and create an organizational structure in which related ideas are grouped to support the writer's purpose.

Science/Social Studies

We are currently studying our solar system, learning about the components, the organization and properties of planets, the difference between revolution (orbit) and rotation, moon phases and seasonal changes being caused by the Earth's tilt on its axis. For Social studies, the students are studying Native Americans in Colorado and we will be completing a research project. The project presentation will be due around Thanksgiving break, and the majority of the project will be completed in class. During this unit, the students will be able to use maps, geographic tools and images to answer questions about Colorado, as well as using grids to locate places on maps. They will also compare and contrast the physical geography of Colorado to neighboring states, describe how Native Americans respond to their environment, explain cause and effect relationships among native peoples in Colorado history, and explain positive/ negative consequences of cultural interactions between native groups.

Reminders	Important Dates
<p>Fiske Planetarium field trip is rescheduled for January 14th.</p> <p>Please continue to support your child in their nightly 30 minutes of reading, discussing character, setting, theme, and comprehension.</p> <p>The entire month of November we are holding a food drive run through our student council please send in non perishable food items or hygiene products if you can!</p>	<p>Nov. 3 Daylight Savings Time ends (Reset clocks)</p> <p>Nov. 5 PTO Meeting</p> <p>Nov. 8 National Microtia Day (celebrated)</p> <p>Nov. 8 PTO Movie Night at Mt. View</p> <p>Nov. 11 Veterans Day- No School</p> <p>Nov. 12 Hearing and Vision Test (not all tested)</p> <p>Nov. 15 Capitol Building Field Trip</p> <p>Nov 25-29 Thanksgiving Break - No School</p>