



LEVITTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



DATE: April, 2017

I. LEE ROAD

A. Student/Instructional

Kindergarten

In April, kindergarteners were practicing counting, writing, and finding parts of numbers to 20. They have been practicing using manipulatives and interactive learning tools. Teachers are very proud of their students' recent rapid progress in guided reading groups.

Spring is in the air, and students have been busy studying the weather, using tools that meteorologists use. They have set up a weather station, and consistently track and record data in their weather log books. Students focus on thermometer use (Fahrenheit and Celsius scales), cloud cover, and measuring precipitation.

Students attended a field trip to the outdoor learning center, where they were introduced to the food chain and played a game reflecting the need for each part of the chain to survive. Students also discussed needs of plants and visited the greenhouse. Students planted sunflowers, which will be transplanted on Lee Road school grounds when ready.

Just as kindergarten students' reading is coming along, it appears that "April Showers" bloomed great writers! Using graphic organizers, students each wrote stories about a rainy day. A variety of genres were created, and students used concept webs to form their ideas. They concentrated on including opening sentences, describing their settings, and adding details. They worked on conventions of writing, as well. The products were truly impressive, and kindergarten kids were proud of their excellent work!

First Grade

First graders have been busy learning to tell time and practicing their addition and subtraction facts through "Math Sprints." Exciting events included a "Habitats Workshop" and a "Reading and Writing Celebration." The saying, "April Showers bring May Flowers" was very true for this month and provided opportunities for spring writing and poems. Happy Spring!

Second Grade

April has been busy for the second graders. We are busy learning about animals in science. We are doing animal research and using this to create Power Point presentations in the computer lab. We have also been reading stories with the theme of friendship in Journeys, and exploring what it means to be a good friend.

Third Grade

Exciting things are happening in third grade! In math we are finishing up our unit on Quadrilaterals. The students have been identifying the different types of quadrilaterals by becoming familiar with each of their attributes. They have been classifying, comparing and analyzing different types of quadrilaterals.

In Reading, we are beginning our Biography Study. The students are beginning their research on the historical figure they chose for the Wax Museum. Both third grade classes are very excited about working on this Biography Project.

Fourth Grade

The fourth graders completed a unit on the American Revolution. Aside from studying from the Social Studies text, students completed research on Patriots and Loyalists using many trade books, videos, and smartboard activities. They were asked to write if they were a Patriot or Loyalist and had to provide evidence for their position.

In addition, we conducted research on tadpoles using the laptops and iPads. This was in preparation for the arrival of our frog embryos. The fourth graders have worked especially hard this month and should be applauded for their efforts!

Fifth Grade

Fifth graders started the month off with learning to write equations in Math. We learned to work through Order of Operations in order to evaluate the equations we wrote. We are now learning how to classify two-dimensional shapes based on their properties. We are anxiously awaiting our trip to Commerce Plaza in the beginning of May so we are studying economics, which will include how to write a check and balance an account. Before break we had a lot of fun with a mixed class, STEAM engineering task where we rebuilt a dinosaur skeleton out of pasta.

Vocal Music

The General Music classes have been dedicated to learning the standard vocal repertoire from Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Sound of Music." The third and fourth grade choruses have been busy working on their repertoire for the upcoming spring concert in June. On April 21st, individuals from the fifth grade chorus performed the National Anthem during the Mets game at Citifield. On April 28th another select group of fifth grade chorus students sang, "God Bless America" at the Long Island Ducks opening game. Students, Maya Morales and Emily Kassimatis, are busy preparing their Vocal NYSSMA solos to be performed on May 24th. On May 3rd, the following students: Isabelle Duffy, Mikaela DiNorcia, Elizabeth Parascondola and Samantha Mulieri were recognized at the Levittown Board of Education meeting for their participation in the All State Chorus this past fall.

Literacy Lab

In Literacy this month, we have been working on writing. In early April, we read stories and poems that used figurative language. We learned about similes and metaphors and wrote our own. The second grade modeled their writing after Dr. Seuss' book, My Many Colored Days. The first graders read and modeled a silly book called, The Big Orange Splot.

The third and fourth graders investigated non-fiction books and noted the different kinds of text features such as indexes, captions, glossaries, charts and maps. For the remainder of the month of April, we read and wrote poems about the earth and nature. We will proudly share them on Spring Exhibit day.

AG: dmd