



THE FALCON FOCUS

Reading

- This is an exciting time of year as we really begin to focus on growing reading behaviors in our students!
- We have learned our routine for Reading Workshop, including a focus lesson, reading independently and with a partner, and a share.
- We will be learning to use reading strategies to help read and understand new stories, such as pointing to words as we read, using pictures clues, and patterns in stories. We also learn to use persistence power - using more than one strategy to figure out tricky words and books.
- We will begin Guided Reading - small, differentiated groups to help our students grow their reading behaviors at their individual levels.
- Continue to read to and with your child at home. Talk about the stories you read together, especially making connections between your own experiences and those in the story.
- In Phonics, we are word scientists, studying the alphabet chart, letters and words to grow as readers and writers.

Writing

In Quarter 2 we will have 3 main focuses.

- **Lists and Labels**
Students will use lists to keep track of ideas, use labels to identify parts of their drawing and hear and record sounds to write words. They will learn to write with a Real World Purpose making connections to their everyday lives. We will be integrating science and social studies using content from those areas to create lists and labels. They will be sharing their writing working on their communication skills.
- **Studying Patterns in Books**
Students will begin to understand that authors use a variety of patterns to help the reader. Readers use patterns they notice to make predictions and writers can use these skills to help in their writing.
- **Focused Nonfiction Books**
Students will learn to use a structure that allows them to focus on a single topic in pictures and words. They will share this information with others giving them an opportunity to teach and learn from their peers. We will take opportunities to honor choice in their writing, if they are excited about it they tend to have more to write about it. Our goal is to have them thinking, talking and writing about things they already know.

Math

- In math, we will begin the 2nd quarter studying patterns! Students will learn to identify, describe, extend, create and transfer repeating patterns found in objects, movement, and sound. Students will have a chance to explore patterns in nature as well. When going for a walk, ask your child to look for patterns in buildings, plants, and animals!
- We will also further our study on counting and numbers. Students will practice counting up to 20 objects, writing and representing the numerals 0-20, counting orally forward to 31 and backward within 10, and counting forward by tens to determine the number of objects to 30.
- Lastly, we will begin our unit on composing and decomposing numbers. Students will learn how to identify the two parts of a whole number. They will also investigate the different ways to compose and decompose a number to 5, an important foundational skills for addition and subtraction.



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Science

- In science we will be learning about squirrels, the life cycle of squirrels, how squirrels change, what they eat, and the vocabulary for where they live (drey).
- We will then work our way into living and non living and discovery of what things are living and non living. We will also classify things in our world into the categories of living and non living.
- Then we have our gingerbread man lessons! There we will learn about fast and slow, sequencing, and how the gingerbread man changes.
- Lastly, we will learn about magnets and do a PBL on how we can save the lost paperclips!

Social Studies

- We will begin civics where we discuss what it means to be a good citizen.
- We will then begin working on economics through discovery of community jobs and through discussion of making choices.
- Afterwards we will look at maps and globes, how they are different and the same, and create our own maps.
- At the end of quarter 2 we will learn about changes over time through historical events, how our community changes, community members, and discuss the vocabulary of past and present.

Dates to Remember

November 4th and 5th - No School

November 27th, 28th and 29th - No School

Reminder

Please remember a labeled coat for your child

Our EF traits for Quarter 2 are...

November - Paying Attention
December - Organizing Thoughts and Materials
January - Staying on Track