

December 8, 2023

The Rocker's Report

Class Newsletter



Thank you to the families that donated an item to the Giving Tree the past two weeks. There are so many families in Mt. Horeb that benefit from all of those items.

On December 22nd, our class along with Mrs. Messmann's class will be walking over to the Lincoln Court Apartments and Girlies Manor to sing carols to the residents and bring handmade cards and ornaments. We look forward to spreading our kindness and showing others in the community that people are thinking about them.

Academics:

Reading- This week we read a story called Technology Wins the Game. We learned what a sport engineer does and how because of them, sports have changed over time making athletes safer and faster.

Ask your child: How have football helmets changed over time? *It is safer now. Some helmets even have a computer chip to tell if players might have a head injury.*

Language arts- For this week's DLR, we learned about compound sentences, compound words, and contractions and more.

We have been continuing to work on our rough drafts of our opinion/persuasive writing pieces. Finding examples to support our reasons has been challenging, but we are starting to understand what they need to do.

Spelling- Our rule this week: There are two ways to spell words with the "OY" sound -"oi" is found at the beginning and middle of words

-"oy" comes at the end of a word or syllable. More often (about 65-70% of the time) words will be spelled with oi.

Math- Unit 3 is all about finding efficient addition and subtraction strategies. We are finding out that certain number combinations lend themselves better to a particular strategy. Two strategies we've recently learned are the "give and take" and "constant difference" strategies.

Friendly Number
(Give and Take/Make a 10)

$376 - 239 = ?$

+1 +1
↓ ↓
377 - 240 = 137

1. Round the subtrahend to a "friendly" number (nearest 10).
2. Add/subtract to get to that friendly number.
3. Do the same calculation to the minuend (this keeps the equation balanced).
4. Subtract to get the difference!

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Give and take strategy for addition

Number line diagram: $94 - 56 = N$. The line shows 52, 56, 90, and 94. Green arrows show jumps of -4 from 94 to 90 and from 56 to 52.

Cloud calculations:

- $94 - 56 = N$: $94 \rightarrow 90$ and $-56 \rightarrow -52$, both resulting in N .
- $94 - 56 = N$: $94 \downarrow -4 \rightarrow 90$ and $-56 \downarrow -4 \rightarrow -52$, both resulting in N .

Constant difference strategy for subtraction

For our December N.C., we are collecting items and finding their mass, by using a balance scale, with a goal of getting as close to 1000 grams by the end of the month.

Social Studies- We'll be wrapping up our study of physical features. We learned that you will often find deserts near mountains because of the lack of water the deserts receive once the clouds cross the mountains.

Science- We started a new unit. In this unit we are learning how animals of the present help us determine what animals of the past looked like, or even what they ate.

Important Information/Reminders:

- Hanukkah Celebrated- December 7-15
- Early release - December 11 @ 12:40
- Specials and Giving Tree assembly- December 11th morning
- Pajama day/Winter party/caroling - December 22
- Winter break- December 23rd-January 1

Special Star

Victor was our special star this week. He celebrated his birthday yesterday, December 7th. I wonder if he ate hot dogs, his favorite food. Two things Victor says he does well are riding his ATV and reading. Speaking of reading, Ostrich vs. Cheetah is his favorite book. Soccer is his favorite sport. To help out around the house, Victor sometimes sweeps. The t.v. show *Sonic Prime* tops his list while Will Wood and the Tapeworms is his favorite music group . When Victor grows up, he would like to be both a YouTuber and a painter. Hopefully when he becomes famous, he'll remember all of us. 😊 Some day he would like to visit his relatives in Mexico.

