

Effingham Fourth Grade News

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Websites a Valuable Tool for Student Success!

A new website that I am having the students try out this year is www.spellingcity.com. Each week I add the students' spelling list to the website and the students can access it by clicking on Find a List. The students type in my last name "preut". Make sure the "e" comes before the "u" in my name! The list will load and the students can practice their words with a variety of activities. They can even give themselves a practice test! The "teach me" section pronounces the word and spells it for them.

Another great website is the following: www.internet4classrooms.com. Once this site loads click on "K-8 Help". When the second page loads go to the fourth grade section and choose the subject the student needs to work on. A giant list of activities will load and the student has a variety of great practice!

AR Information

The AR program is already being used by students in our classroom. The students in fourth grade must meet a goal of 5 points a quarter to attend the AR Quarter Party. However, each student will be setting their own individual goals to improve their reading comprehension skills. These goals will be set after a conference with the student in which we will discuss their reading levels and expectations. They will be guided in the selection of their goal. Students must pass the test with an 80% or above for the test to be counted in their goal. Students who score a 100% get to ring a special bell in the class and we all "celebrate" their victory!

Calendar Corner

Monday, September 1st-
NO SCHOOL-LABOR DAY

**FOURTH GRADE
ROCKS !!**

Curriculum Highlights

We have started our guided reading groups and are still trying to work out the "bugs". The biggest challenge is time. The kids enjoy reading out loud to me but we are limited on our amount of time we can spend on this during the day. We are now focusing on defining words by using context clues.

Writing time found us focusing on writing sentences and paragraphs using the "orange method". By using a picture of orange segments the students write down ideas that they think of when given a topic word. Then the segments are put together to form a good paragraph. We also reviewed subjects and predicates in grammar.

Inquiry and scientific method were both topics in science as the students participated in building a straw model that will be tested for strength next week. We continued our study of different types of maps by reading physical and political maps to answer questions.

Our focus in math has been the ordering and comparing of numbers. Students use place value to put numbers in order from least to greatest or greatest to least. They also compare two numbers by using the "less than" and "greater than" signs. We also wrote numbers to the 100 millions place. By using word form and expanded form we can explore numbers in many ways, too!