

This Week in Third Grade...



DECEMBER

Math: This week students will spend Tuesday reviewing the beginning of algebra through a series of differentiated multi-step word problems. In addition, we will focus on warming up with balancing equations using the commutative property principle as well as reviewing the distributive property. On Wednesday, our primary focus will be on multiplication patterning of 6's and 7's. Thursday, students will focus on larger numbers utilizing the distributive property as well as interpreting the unknown in both multiplication and division word problems. Finally, on Friday we will dive into the concept of "Order of Operations" as we explore the purpose of parenthesis through a variety of kinesthetic and differentiated group activities as we work on accuracy with larger numbers.

Reading: This week, students will be reviewing a few deeper message of three different fables as warmups throughout the week. In addition, our main selection for this week happens to be the story entitled "Tops and Bottoms." Due to the theme of "crops" our close reading will focus specifically on crops and food waste as we explore a pretty complex article about the ways in which Norway is beginning to solve their food-waste problem. On Friday, students will have the opportunity to break into small group time with myself as we explore a folktale or two based on the specific skills that group is working on. Folktales include but are not limited to: The Emperor and the Kite, One Grain of Rice, The Korean Princess and others. We will be focusing specifically on inferencing as well as plot development and characterization/theme development as we move forward into this mini-unit.

Grammar: This week we will be moving into a quick review of irregular pronouns but more importantly another week long study on dialogue usage and punctuation. While we will continue to review sentence diagramming to remember parts of speech learned throughout this year, we will be focusing this week on properly punctuating dialogue when the tag "interrupts" as well as when the tag comes after the dialogue used. Students will listen once to a creative take on "The Gingerbread Man" and will begin creating their own life-sized comic strip which focuses on creating a new version of this December-like tale as well as focuses on application of dialogue in all of its uses within creative fiction.

*We will continue reading our novel entitled "Wish" more consistently this week as students complete a variety of theme and character projects related to the particular chapters read in this book.

Writing/ Handwriting: Students will begin another cursive writing lesson this week as review letters taught last week but also move into fluency with lowercase letters as well as beginning our uppercase cursive letter study. In addition, we will be beginning one more Compare and Contrast Writing Unit this week as we explore Cinderella through five cultures. This week we will be reading a story of Greek story, Mexican story, Chinese story and Native American story of Cinderella. We will specifically be exploring "fairytale" elements and how they are portrayed similarly or differently based on culture.

Social Studies: Students officially completed their state research report projects last week. They will certainly remain in the classroom for students to look at, but will be brought home before the Holidays. Students did a remarkable job researching and placing together their scrapbooks.

Science: We will begin and conclude Chapter 4 in Science this week as we explore a variety of plants and their specific behavior adaptations as well as animals and their adaptations. We will also be discussing the important of instinct versus learned behaviors throughout the week.



Dear Families,

Happy Monday! I hope everyone had a beautiful

Thanksgiving with family and friends! It was a much needed break before the Holiday

Season hits full force! Our spelling words this week are the following: Also, Student

Council has a very special Play it Forward project going on right now until December

10th. If possible, students are encouraged to bring in old toys, books, electronics that are

gently used to donate to families in need this holiday season! Any or all donations would be greatly appreciated! Just a reminder that you may find all newsletters posted on

my site [ms.amoscato.com](https://www.amoscato.com). You can access the newsletter this week by clicking on the Third Grade tab on the top of my website. Then, hovering over with your cursor and

clicking on "newsletters."

In addition, spelling words for this week I have posted on spelling city: The spelling words we are learning are the following:

<https://www.spellingcity.com/view-spelling-list.html?listId=58649964> Have a wonderful weekend, everyone!

Warmly,

Mrs.

Amoscato

Upcoming

Tests

Reading: Tests Thursday

Spelling- Test Friday

Math- Quick Checks throughout the week!

Special ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please make sure your student is practicing multiplication facts at home!

Our Toy Drive is still going on! Any gently used toys or books that are not being used are certainly welcome!!