



## This Week in Third Grade...

**Math:** Students will review the concepts behind multiplication this week. We will continue to learn about the concepts behind division (the number of groups and the size of the groups.) Students will be learning about the commutative property as well as the distributive property this week! At the beginning of next week, the students will have a small mid-module assessment based on the concepts learned in Modules A, B and C. We will have extensive review in class and a study guide will also be made and reviewed!

**Reading:** This week, time will be spent on understanding reader's workshop (mini-lesson, guided reading and center rotations.) We will officially begin our first reading Unit (Main Idea and Detail.) Students will be reading this with me during our guided reading group at the back table. We are working on our reading fluency, expression and comprehension skills. Independent Work will include analysis of a nonfiction book. Students chose their nonfiction book topics last week. In addition, independent work will be differentiated for each student to focus on specific skill-sets.

In addition to Reader's Workshop, we will continue our read-aloud entitled **Fish in a Tree**. Students will continue to respond to writing prompts in their journals. Last week we focused extensively on character analysis and figurative language. Students will also begin to learn vocabulary words that are used throughout the book!

**Writing:** Students just completed their final copies of their first writing piece entitled "The Best Part of Me." This was an excellent first writing unit. We will begin our Memoir Writing Unit this week. Various Picture Book Memoirs will be discussed throughout the week through journal entries and Socratic Seminars. Students will be brainstorming pivotal moments in their lives and we will be beginning our graphic organizers towards the end of this week. Our focus is not just having the students write a narrative piece but really thinking about WHY they are writing this piece. What was the lesson that was learned? Why did they choose this specific piece?

**Science:** We will continue to embark on our journey of learning about various ecosystems and learning about how humans can interrupt ecosystems and sometimes cause animal endangerment. Students will be creating their own food chains of the African Savannah. A Science Test will take place this Friday. Vocabulary terms and concepts will be reviewed throughout this week!

**Grammar:** Students will focus on differentiating between sentences and fragments. In addition, types of sentences will be reviewed (command, question, exclamation and declaration.) This week, we will be focusing on applying subject and predicate as well as types of sentences to authentic literature. Specifically, we will be reading one of my favorite books by Van Allsburg entitled "The Stranger."

## Third Grade Power Team

### Ms. Amoscato's News

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone has had a relaxing weekend! We truly had an excellent week last week. My students this year are truly unbelievable!

Just a reminder that agenda books should be signed every night! In addition, please make sure your child is practicing their spelling words and math facts! The sooner they know their addition and subtraction math facts, the sooner they can begin learning their multiplication facts.

We will begin our first official reading unit this week. This year, I have decided to be self-contained in the subject area of reading. This means that my students will not be rotating continuously between the other two teachers. I feel that it is in the best interest of the students if I keep them throughout the entire year, so that I really get to know them as individual readers within the classroom. Consistency is key and allows for growth! I want to make sure all of my students get what they need as far as practice with fluency and comprehension skills. Thank you for your help and support! Once again, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email me or call me!

### Upcoming Tests

Friday: Our First Science Test!

Friday: Our very first Spelling Test!

### IMPORTANT NOTES!

- \* A reminder that students should continue to study their addition/subtraction facts. The sooner the students learn their facts, the sooner they can begin their multiplication facts!
- \* Students should be reviewing their spelling words every night!