

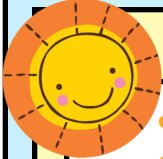
# Fun in First Grade

Issue 15

Our Classroom Newsletter

May 14, 2022


## Mark Your Calendar!

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- All Items Due Back to GB Library- Tues. May 24
  - PTO Pizza Day- Wed. May 25
  - Spiritwear Day- Thurs. May 26
  - PTO County Fair- Wed. May 25 (5:30-7:30 pm)
  - Field Day at School- Fri. May 27
  - No School- Mon. May 30
  - GB Packs Picnic Lunch (Pizza if ordered)- Tues. May 31
  - Last Day of School- Wed. June 1 (noon dismissal)



Here is our Wetlands group presenting their adaptation poster to the class!

## From the Desk of Mrs. S.

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- I really cannot believe we are in our final weeks of First Grade. While it was another year of things not being totally normal, it was such a fantastic year of learning and social growth for our little ones. I will be savoring each moment we have left together before summer is here! They are such a fun and special class. Until then, there is a lot of exciting things planned these next few weeks. I will send as many reminders as I can via Seesaw. :)
  - To go along with that, we start our GREENBRIAR SPIRIT Countdown this Monday. Each day, there is a fun activity for our kids to do. I have attached the countdown to our email and will send a paper copy home on Monday. For this upcoming week, here are the activities you need to prep for at home.

**THURS. MAY 19- Everyone Get Wacky: Wear wacky socks to school**

**FRI. MAY 20- Neon Day: Wear your favorite neon-colored clothes.**

## Highlight of the Week

### WHAT'S IN MY BAG?

This past week in Literacy Studio, we worked on the comprehension strategy Making Predictions. To start to understand this concept, we learned how to use clues to guess what was in my vacation bag. After reading the clues, the students realized they needed to use their background knowledge (schema) to make a good guess of what I packed in my bag. It was so fun to hear the students converse about their guesses and support their thinking with clues and schema. After doing this activity, we connected our understanding to reading. We learned strong readers use the clues from the book along with their background knowledge to guess what will happen next when reading stories. We practiced making predictions this week by reading the book *The Araboolis of Liberty Street*. This book has many places to stop and predict. The students did a great job of predicting and also changing their predictions as new clues came up. We do more of this thinking next week!

## Learning Snapshots

**Opinion Writing-** In Writing, we have spent the last few weeks learning how to write about our opinions. To start this learning, we compared opinion writing to informational text and learned opinions are how we feel and cannot be proven. Then, we read many picture books in which an opinion is given to learn our job as a writer is to try and convince the reader to feel the way we do. From there, we learned how to support our opinions with reasons. We used a graphic organizer to organize our writing. Then, we wrote about things we like or dislike. Finally, we learned how to add a good ending. The students have loved writing about their feelings!

**Phonics-** In Phonics, we have continued to learn more long vowel patterns. This last week, we focused on long i patterns including -igh,

-ie and i\_e. We built words, played games and did a fun word hunt to find words.

**Science-** Over the last few weeks, we started our final Unit in Science on Plants and Animals. To start this unit, we reviewed living vs. non-living from Kindergarten. Then, we learned what plants and animals need to survive. To better understand this, we did an activity in which the students pretended to be raccoons in a forest and had to search for food and water tokens. We saw what would happen if there wasn't enough food or water for the raccoons. We have also been observing plants. We have three plants in our room. One is receiving water and sunlight. One is just getting sunlight and one is just getting water. We are watching to see what happens to each plant over the weeks. Lastly, we spend a great amount of time this last week learning about

animal adaptations. We learned what an adaptation is and then we got in groups to research different habitats on Pebble Go. Each group created a poster in which they shared about three animals and their adaptations they need to survive in their habitat. They loved working together and presenting their posters to the class. I will post videos of this on Seesaw this week for you to see!

**Math-** In Math, we have completed Unit 6 in which we went back to learning about measuring items in inches and comparing the height of different objects. Through this work, we also learned how to subtract and add to find the difference between two numbers. We then began Unit 7 in which we are learning to add double-digit numbers by adding the ones and tens. We have used popsicle sticks and drawings to do this so far.