



T.J.E. Shark Bites

A weekly newsletter for First Grade at Thelma Jones Elementary • Mansfield Independent School District

Third Six Weeks • Week One • November 16-20, 2009

Our Focus This Week

We will now focus on some seasonal topics such as Thanksgiving, pumpkins/harvest, and Native Americans.

As we approach the holiday season, the students will learn about “The First Thanksgiving” and what a wonderful impact the Pilgrims had on our lives. We will discuss the freedoms that these people were striving for. We will also compare and contrast the first Thanksgiving with today’s Thanksgiving. Students will identify traditions that occur because of the Pilgrims’ and Indians’ friendship and their working together to establish a community many, many years ago.

Reading Reminders

Our basal story this week is Greg’s Mask. In phonics, we will focus on all short vowels (a, e, i, o, and u). We will make words with the following word families: ash, op, ap, ack, ip, and ess.

The students will continue to work on inflectional endings ed, ing, es, and s. We are working on the er ending. We will continue working on double final consonants ll, zz, ss, ff, and tt.

Beginning blends tw, cl, cr, pl, st, tr, sn, fl, br, bl, and fr will also continue to be focused on this week.

As you can see, we are moving right along with our skills to build fluency in reading.

Enrichment Schedule

See your child’s enrichment calendar.

SPECIAL NOTES: Wear tennis shoes on PE days and Fridays.

Math

Our math focus this week will be making numbers 11-20. We will discuss and make fact families. We will work on counting by fives and tens to 100, counting backward on a hundreds chart, and making patterns. We will not forget to review graphing, estimating, measuring, and comparing. Also, the students will continue to understand and solve word problems. As you can see, we are working diligently to become more proficient in math.

Language Arts

- *sentences
- *punctuation (period, question mark, exclamation mark)
- *capitalization
- *nouns
- *adjectives
- *verbs
- *plural nouns
- *irregular plural nouns (children, men, geese, etc.)
- *proper nouns
- *contractions
- *compound words
- *possessives

Handwriting

Our handwriting has improved, but we still need to work on form and neatness *the first grade way*.

- * See the homework sheet.
- The spelling test is on Friday.

Science/Social Studies

- *Pumpkins/Harvest
- *Native Americans
- *Thanksgiving

Things to Remember

- *Casa Manana Field Trip “Santa Claus is Coming to Town” **December 11th**
- Note: If you have not sent the money or permission form in, please do so immediately.
- *Thanksgiving Holidays- **November 23-27, 2009**
- ***Report Cards – November 19th**
- ***Polar Express – December 17th (more information to come)**
- ***First Grade Winter party – December 17th (more information to come)**