



First Grade Literacy Life




OCTOBER 5, 2015

Dear Room 126 Families,

Do characters learn from their experiences? During the next two weeks, we will explore this question as we read stories about friends and family members who work together and learn from each other. First we will read *It's Mine!*, a story about three selfish frogs who bicker all day long until a bad storm and a big brown toad help them realize that sharing is much more fun. While reading *The Storm*, we will meet a character that has to face his fears--with a little help from his grandpa. Then we'll read *City Mouse & Country Mouse* to decide if the mice would be better off living elsewhere or if their lives are perfect just as they are. During our class discussions, the children will make connections between these stories and their own life experiences. They will also learn how these important connections help to better understand characters and story events.

Happy Fall!
Martha Orso

Word Wall Words		Spelling Words		Vocabulary
<u>10/5-10/9</u>	<u>10/12-10/16</u>	<u>10/5-10/9</u>	<u>10/12-10/16</u>	◆ quarrel
◆ he	◆ like	◆ hen	◆ tack	◆ island
◆ look	◆ the	◆ wet	◆ neck	◆ bicker
◆ have	◆ we	◆ pen	◆ stick	◆ huddle
◆ for	◆ she	◆ web	◆ puck	◆ tremble
◆ too	◆ went	◆ leg	◆ sock	◆ swarm
<u>Reading Strategies</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Check for Understanding-Stop and talk about the characters, setting and important events while you are reading. ◆ Ask & Answer Questions-Take turns asking and answering questions about characters and events. Key words to use: <i>who, what, where, when, and why.</i> ◆ Make Connections-Make connections between a story and your own life to help you better understand what you read. 		<u>Writing</u> <p>During the next two weeks, we will introduce the practice of revision by teaching our young writers this saying: "When you're done, you've just begun." The students will go back to their completed writing and work on adding more to their words and pictures. They will use the following questions to check that they have included all the important details.</p> <p>Who? Where? When? What? Why? How?</p> 		<u>Activities to Do Together</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Problem Solvers-Think about a time when you had a conflict with a brother, sister, or friend. How did you solve the problem? Make a list of the steps you took to solve the problem. Bring your list to school to share with our class. ◆ All Around the Pond- Use paper to make a pond. Cut 10 lily pads and place them around your pond. On each lily pad, write one spelling or word wall word. Take hops around the pond reading the words. Rearrange your words until you can read them easily.