



First Grade Literacy Life

MARCH 21, 2016



Dear Room 126 Families,

This week, we are looking forward to reading two fun stories about children who encounter some challenges. While reading *Down the Road*, the students will practice sharing "I wonder..." statements as they join the main character in her first independent adventure. After reading, they will practice retelling the story and finding examples in the book to support their thinking. We'll then read *Chrysanthemum*. The students will identify how the characters in the story are reacting to the events. After reading each story, the students will also identify how the main character changed and learned an important lesson.

Happy Spring!
Martha Orso



Word Wall Words

friend
what
day
say
does

Spelling Words

dice
face
spruce
gem
large

Vocabulary

- ♦ dreadful
- ♦ humorous
- ♦ mended
- ♦ dillydally
- ♦ meadow

Reading Strategies

- ♦ The Essential Question—What clues do you use to find out how a character is feeling?
- ♦ Inferring—Use pictures and words to infer characters' motives and feelings about events.
- ♦ Cause & Effect—Identify how the characters' actions cause other things to happen.

Writing

We are doing research about space! Students selected topics of interest, and are working in partnerships to read and take some simple notes about their new learning. Then we'll share our learning with others using a free web tool called *Little Bird Tales* to create a digital book. The children will work on beginning each page with a big idea sentence (topic sentence) and will try to connect related facts, and end with a closing sentence.



Activities to Do Together

- ♦ Write a Friendly Letter—Both of our main characters this week were very sad about events in their lives. Pretend like one of these characters is your friend. Write a letter giving advice about how the character should handle the problem.
- ♦ Create a Poster—What happened to *Chrysanthemum* sometimes happens in real life. Create a poster encouraging other students to be proud of who they are!

Down the Road (Making Meaning-p.182/2 Lessons)

In lesson one, students will:

- use text clues to visualize character, setting and other story elements. They will represent drawing.
-
- wonder about story read aloud
-
- refer to the story to support their meaning
-
- retell the first part of the story
-

Chrysanthemum (Making Meaning-p.62) (Inferring how characters are thinking and feeling/2 lessons)

t these visualizations through

ssons)