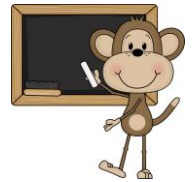


Martin's Monkey Memo

Friday, November 8, 2013

Visit our classroom blog at www.1stgrademonkeys.weebly.com



Look what's swingin' in our classroom:

This week we met a new friend, "Nancy Noun." She taught us that a noun is a person, place, or thing. We even learned a song to help us remember what a noun is! Ask your child if they remember the song we learned this week.

We are growing as readers in first grade! Now that we have built a foundation in reading, we are working on our fluency and comprehension. We want our readers to not only know the words, but to read them smoothly (fluently) rather than choppy like a robot. Often rereading can help build fluency. We also want our readers to understand what they are reading. As you read at home, continue to ask your child questions as they read. Encourage them to tell you what happened on a particular page, who is in the story, where the story is taking place, and what the story is about.

In math we have been working hard on story problems. We also have been practicing our subtraction skills. In our curriculum, subtraction is taught much differently than you may have been taught as a first grader. Rather than counting backwards, students are encouraged to count on. For example, $7-3$. Rather than counting backwards from 7, kids will start at 3 and count on with their fingers to 7. Their fingers then show that it took 4 to get to 7. $7-3=4$. Are you wondering why we teach subtraction in this way? When kids begin subtracting larger numbers, it will be easier to count on than to count backwards. For example, look at the equation $22-18=4$. Many of you will most likely count on "19, 20, 21, 22" rather than counting backwards from 22. The idea of counting on rather than counting backwards will help your child as they grow in their math skills. How fun!

Monday and Tuesday are parent/teacher conferences! I cannot wait to share your child's learning with you! Thank you, in advance, for taking the time to join me at conferences. In first grade, we will meet together as parent(s) and teacher only. If you are unable to find child care for your little one, they are welcome to read a book while they wait. Thank you!

Have a wonderful, long weekend. I'll see your kiddo on Wednesday!

-Miss Martin

Save The Date:

- *November 11-12: Parent/Teacher Conferences
- *November 11-12: No School!
- *November 27-29: Thanksgiving Break/No School

A Mini Memo:

November Spirit Fridays!

- *Friday, November 15- Wear Clothes Backwards Day
- *Friday, November 22- Favorite Sports Team Apparel Day

Coming Up Next Week:

Star Student Of The Week:
Conferences- No Star Student

Our Learning Targets:

- ***Reading:** I can reread to better understand what I am reading
- ***Writing:** I can use a flap to edit my small moment story
- ***Spelling:** I can spell the words of, a, to, the, and
- ***Math:** I can solve for unknown partners or totals in story problems and equations
- ***Science:** I can sort objects by their property

Popcorn Words: your, when, from, not

Word Families: -ang, -ing

Sound: /ng/

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