



Third Grade Times

Superior Elementary

Friday, November 18, 2011



Summarizing

We are continuing our unit on summarizing, as we read and summarize legends. Students are determining the major events and details of the story, and putting them into their own words. We will also focus on summarizing non-fiction, as we progress through our Native American research projects.

Spelling

Don't forget! Students can continue to practice their spelling skills over break, by going to:

www.spellingcity.com/superior4/

Check out our online newsletter!

You can find all of this information and more at our online newsletter. It is accessible from the Third Grade page on Superior's website at:

<http://www.bvsd.org/schools/Superior/staff/third/Pages/default.aspx>, or you can go directly there at: www.workspace.meganschumacher.org.

Congratulations!

We want to wish Mrs. Marcus congratulations on her great news! She and her husband are expecting a new baby in May! Arabella will be a big sister!

Math Explorations

We are well into our unit on Addition and Subtraction. The students are exploring different strategies to solving problems. Strategies you may hear your child refer to are: Stacking (traditional algorithm), Splitting (focuses on splitting the place value), bossing (manipulating a number so it is a decade number), and jumping (solving the problem using a number line). Our goal with teaching these strategies is to give students the skills to flexibly solve problems mentally. We will also be covering how to use rounding to estimate addition and subtraction problems.

Shortly after the Thanksgiving break, we will begin our multiplication and division unit! The students are eagerly anticipating this unit, and can begin to practice their facts at www.multiplication.com.

Social Studies

We have begun our unit on the Native Americans of Colorado. Students will be learning about the Ancient Puebloans, or Anasazi tribe, that once inhabited the Southwest areas of Mesa Verde National Park and Chaco Canyon. They are also researching a tribe on their own, that they will present to other students in the class. Students will research one of the following tribes: Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Ute.

Extra Credit

The next at home project came home this week. Students have the opportunity to research and build a model shelter. More information should have come home with your child. The projects are due on: Friday, Dec 9th. This project is extra credit. Please check with your child's teacher if you have any questions.

Important Dates:



11/18 – Report Cards go home

11/21-11/25 – NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break

12/9 – Extra Credit Shelter Projects Due

12/19-1/4 – NO SCHOOL – Winter Break

Legends

We are currently reading legends to explore the culture of Native Americans. Students will then use this knowledge to write their own legend. Their legends will include many characteristics like: explains something about nature or answers a "How something came to be" question, has animal characters that talk, teaches a lesson or moral, has a problem and solution, and has magic or makes the impossible possible.

