**First Grade News- SEPTEMBER 30-October 4**

**SCIENCE**

* Our knowledge of animals continues to grow as we dig deeper into new vocabulary and understandings of animals. We learned about the different animal groups this week. We learned information about, and compared: amphibians, reptiles, birds, fish, and mammals. We researched the different types, sorted them, read a story together about different animals throughout the world, and named pictures of each type of animal.

**LANGUAGE ARTS**

* We are still learning about common and proper nouns, this week we added plural nouns to our Language arts time. We identified plural nouns, sorted them, and recorded them in a search activity. We learned 2 ways to make a noun plural. (“just add s” and “add es please!”) We read in small reading groups with Mrs. Schneider and worked on –an words in our making words group with Mrs. Mauritz. We reviewed some of our reading strategies and talked about ways these can help us in our writing too! (stop and re-read, using beginning and ending sounds, and check for understanding)

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

* The book *Me on a Map* helped us to understand what a map key is and how to use them. We practiced by making our own maps of our bedrooms. We learned that maps are drawn from a bird’s eye view, and how maps help us. We also reviewed geography vocabulary and worked in partners to complete a written assessment of our map unit.

**RELIGION**

* The journey of the Israelites in the wilderness was our topic this week. We learned about all the things Moses did as a leader. We were sad to hear of the trouble the Israelites had trusting in God. It seemed easy for us to know they should trust God, but when we talked about our own lives, it helped us understand. A ‘trust fall’ activity (thanks to Ryan, Laura, and Payton) gave us a good visual of how God is always there and we can trust him, like the Israelites, even when we can’t see him. We learned a fun song to remember the 10 commandments, and another song about the story of the 12 spies in Canaan.

**ART**

* Hide and Snake!! We created fun, patterned snakes with crayons/markers. We loved hiding them around the room and finding our friend’s snakes (good connection to Science). On Thursday we used watercolors to paint a picture of an animal that we choose from our animal group posters.

**TECHNOLOGY**

* Logging in on our own and finding Microsoft Word we practiced keeping our hands in the home row and our thumbs on the space bar. We typed words using only the letters from the home row. (ash, Alaska, salad, sad, Dallas, fad, sag, etc.)

**MATH**

* Adding and Subtracting are becoming a big part of our math discussions. After reading a story problem or acting one out, we have to decide if we are putting together or taking away. We are starting to put these numbers into a number sentence as well. Our first set of facts were introduced this week, the doubles. We loved learning the doubles rap to help us learn these facts, you can practice at home!

It’s the doubles, baby, let’s go let’s go

It’s the doubles, baby, and we start with ZERO

0 plus 0 equals 0, oh!

1 plus 1 equals 2, ooooh!

2 plus 2 equals 4, more!

3 plus 3 equals 6, kicks!

4 plus 4 equals 8, that’s great!

5 plus 5 equals 10, again!!!

**IMPORTANT DATES**

* October 7th- Bully Awareness Day- wear light blue to school!
* October 8th- 11:30 Dismiss- STAFF DEVELOPMENT
* October 18-PUMPKIN FARM FIELD TRIP
* October 24-25- NO SCHOOL- LEA CONVENTION
* October 27th- 9:30 SING IN CHURCH
* NOVEMBER 15th- ½ Day and GRANDPARENTS DAY!!

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

If you would like to donate an item to our class please see our ‘giving tree’ outside of the 4k classroom. It is a tree filled with leaves containing helpful items for our room. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

Don’t forget to send in your signed permission slip for the pumpkin farm field trip by Wednesday October 9th!

Have a Great Weekend! - Mrs. Schneider