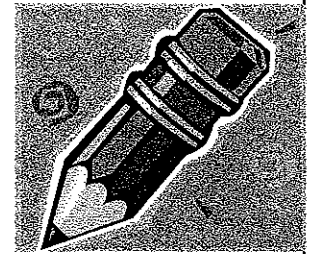


Elliott's Events

Mrs. Elliott: 3B

December 7, 2010



elliottj@thompson.k12.co.us 613-5749 www.3b2011.wikispaces.com

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have finished our unit on narrative writing and we're moving on to expository writing. We have started discussing topic sentences and we will continue to do so this week. We discussed the difference between a boring topic sentence and a topic sentence that will grab the reader's attention. We also took some time to brainstorm topic ideas for "How to" paragraphs, and we have been looking at some "How to" books as mentor texts. We will be learning about the importance of writing detailed steps to "doing" an activity.

In reading we have also been focusing on nonfiction texts. Last week the students spent time reading a National Geographic Explorer magazine. We focused on topic sentences and whether or not they told us what the rest of the paragraph would be about, and we spent time recording our thinking on the article. The students noted interesting facts, questions they had, and any other thoughts right on the article to keep track of what they were learning. When working with nonfiction books we will use small sticky notes to record our thoughts. If you have sticky notes at home, they can be a great tool for students to record their thoughts about their reading—this way they can refer back to the exact part of the text they are writing about.

Please feel free to contact me with any comments, questions or concerns you may have regarding your child at 613-5749 or elliottj@thompson.k12.co.us.

Sincerely,
Julie Elliott

Spelling List:

Sort 13

1. couldn't
2. wouldn't
3. aren't
4. weren't
5. isn't
6. shouldn't
7. doesn't
8. can't
9. don't
10. they'll
11. that'll
12. this'll
13. who'll
14. she'll
15. you'll
16. he'll
17. it'll
18. what'll
- 19.
- 20.

This Week in 3rd Grade:

Math: We will be comparing numbers and practicing using subtraction to compare numbers.

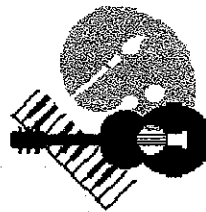
Reading: We will continue our unit on expository text. We will practice recording our thoughts as we read.

Writing: We will continue to talk about topic sentences.

Social Studies: We will use the students' homework page from last week to make our own Winter Counts.

Word of the Week: Caring

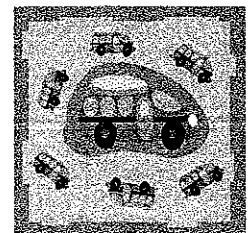
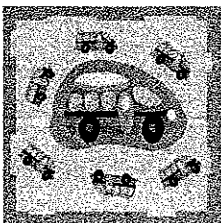
Specialist Schedule



Monday: Music/P.E.
2:45 to 3:45
Tuesday: Music /P.E.
2:45 to 3:45
Wednesday: Computers/Library
8:50 to 9:50
Thursday: Art 2:45 to 3:45
Friday: Counselor/Lib. or Comp.
2:45 to 3:45

School-Home Connection

Giving Tree/██████████: 11/23-12/10
PTO Meeting: 12/7 @ 7PM
Santa Craft Fair: 12/9-12/10
3rd Grade Showcase: 12/14





Spelling Practice



Below is a list of ways to study your spelling words. Choose at least one activity from the list to practice your spelling words.

1. Write your words in alphabetical order.
2. Write each of your spelling words and circle the vowels.
3. Write each of your spelling words and underline the consonants.
4. Play "Snowman": This is a nonviolent version of Hangman. On a separate sheet of paper, draw a snowman with a hat, three buttons, two eyes, a nose and a smile. Erase a part of the snowman for each guess. Try to guess the word before the snowman melts!
5. Riddle Me!: Write some riddles using your spelling words.
6. Connect the Dots!: Make a square of four rows of dots with four dots in each row. Before taking a turn, a player must spell a spelling word. If the word is spelled correctly, the player connects two dots. When a player forms a square, he/she can write their initials in the box. The player with the most boxes in the end wins.
7. Write each word in sentence that is at least 5 words long.
8. Write each word and its definition.
9. Make a word search and have a member of your family find the words.
10. Story Story!: Write a short story using all of your spelling words. Underline the words in your story.
11. Colorful Words: Use two different color pens to write your spelling words. Use one color to write the consonants and the other for the vowels.
12. Stair Steps: Write your words as if they were stairs, adding one letter each time.

Example: s

sp


spe

spel

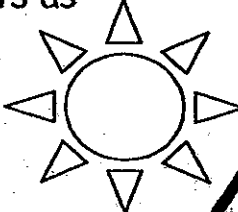
spell

Directions: Read the article below about Winter Counts. As you read, record your thoughts in the margins.

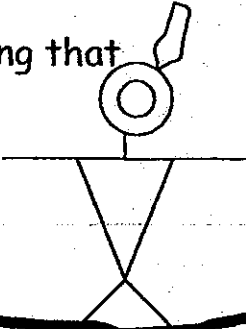
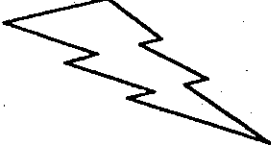
Recording History Using Winter Counts



Before the 1800's, the Plains people did not communicate through the use of alphabets and written language. Their major forms of communication included oral language, sign language and picture drawing. Therefore, they did not record their history in words, but used picture drawing to pass on important events as their years passed by.



Every year that passed, the tribal leaders gathered together and reviewed the important events of the previous year. Together they selected the most significant event of that year and painted a simple symbol/picture on a buffalo hide to help them remember that important event. These "history hides" were called **winter counts** because the Plains people counted the years that passed by the winters. For every "winter" there was a picture showing an important event that happened sometime during that year. The tribal members could recall the year of their birth by the important event that happened during that year.



Directions: Read the boring topic sentences below and rewrite them as a more interesting topic sentence that will grab the reader's attention. Remember to include capitals and periods in your sentences.

The thing I like to do in the summer is go swimming.

Something I like to do with my family is go to the park.

When I get older, I want to be an astronaut.

There are three places I like to go on vacation.

Here is how you ride a bike.



Solving Addition Problems

Solve each problem and show your solution.
For Problem 3, write an equation to go with
the story problem.

NOTE Students practice
solving addition problems
with 2- and 3-digit
numbers.

SMH 20-24

1. $215 + 78 =$ _____

2. $157 + 121 =$ _____

3. The students in Ms. Suarez's class had 320 bottle caps in their collection at the end of last week. This week, the students collected 64 more bottle caps. How many bottle caps do they have now?

