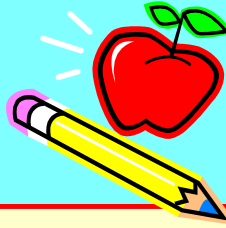




THIRD GRADE



P.S 117

Briarwood, New York

Third Grade Curriculum
November 2010

Third Grade Curriculum Newsletter

Math

The third grade is working on one of the most important units of the year, Understanding Time and Money. The skills built upon during this unit will be used throughout your children's lives. We will be telling time to the nearest minute, and will begin working with elapsed time. We will also be looking at schedules and calendars. Encourage your children to make a daily or weekly schedule for themselves to support our work in class. We will also be creating equivalent amounts of money, and making change. Encourage your children to work with money at home or even at the store when you go shopping.



Social Studies

The third grade is having a great time visiting Japan. We have been comparing our schools to their schools. There are many differences and similarities that we have noticed. We have also taken time to learn about Japanese foods, holidays, and clothing. Our classes have been reading and writing haiku poems. You can try writing haikus at home by observing all the wonderful changes in nature during this fall season. By the end of the month we will be on our way to our next destination. Stay tuned to see where our travels take us.

Science

We are continuing our study of the world around us through matter investigations. We are taking a closer look at properties of matter. There are so many ways to classify solids, liquids and gases. Don't forget to use all five of your senses when identifying properties. Use adjectives, describing words, to get to know the world around you.

Reader and Writer's Workshop

Some of our third grade readers have ventured outside to enjoy autumn poems and stories in the beautiful garden at I.S 217. We listened to the sounds, and enjoyed the beautiful sights of the season as we relished our reading time together. Other children used the time to collect thoughts and grow ideas for their writing. Besides enjoying the beauty of Briarwood in autumn, we learned that reading and writing could happen anywhere!

During the first two months of school we worked on "Building a Reading Life" as well as studying and analyzing characters in fiction stories. We are ready to tackle our next unit of study: non-fiction books. We will learn and practice new strategies to support this type of reading work. Such strategies include: thinking about what we already know and synthesizing that with our new learning, paying attention to and using the text features to support our learning, and determining importance as we read.

One way you can support our work at home is by reading and examining other types of non-fiction material with your child. Examples of this include newspaper articles, menus, catalogs, speeches, advertisements, and even Election Day flyers you receive in the mail!

We look forward to working and learning with your child and we are grateful for your participation and enthusiasm. By November's end your child should be able to teach you all about something!

Please stop by and visit me during Parent teacher conferences in November. I look forward to meeting you.

Mary Conlon
Grade 3 & 4
Reading Teacher