

New Emerson School

We Visualize! We Believe! We Achieve!

Together, through the building of positive relationships, our community strives to create self-directed, interdependent, empathetic, and creative thinkers with a growth mindset.

JANUARY 2019

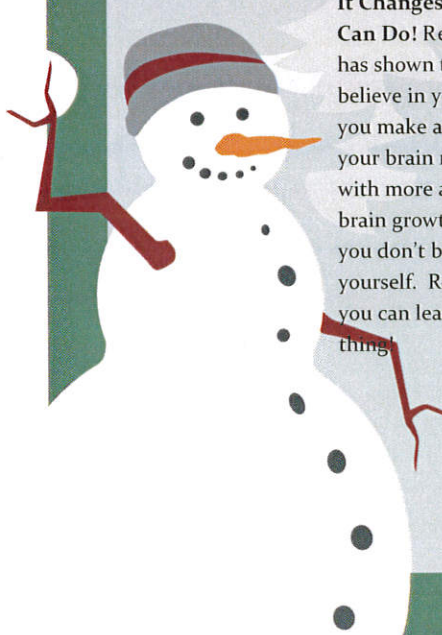
NEWSLETTER NEWS: I am transitioning the monthly newsletter to be more "future focused." What this means is that I will focus on content and standards that we are working on in the weeks to come, instead of what we have worked on in the last few weeks. Research shows that learners do better with content when they have some background knowledge or discussions around topics. So, that is our purpose...to give your learner a chance to discuss, possibly research, maybe visit a place, or watch a video that encourages them to start thinking about and developing a base for the content to come.

Reader's Workshop: Our focus will continue to be Expository Text, which is another word for Non-Fiction or Informational text. Our readers are reading with the purpose of finding the main idea and supporting details. We do this using boxes and bullets format to take notes when we read (not every time we read, but it is good practice). Sometimes a text has a "pop out sentence" in it that will tell us what the main idea is, if there is not a heading or subtitle at the top. Our goal is to take this work in small chunks...reading a section of a text or a page or two and then stopping to retell/summarize using the main idea and supporting details. We will use this skill to write summaries of Non-Fiction short text.

Writer's Workshop: We are beginning a unit on Opinion Writing. Our first charge is to write persuasive speeches. Some of our strategies for ideas are thinking of problems and imagining solutions. Some things to think about... how important our audience is, as well as thinking about how to support our opinion with reasons and evidence. In the weeks to come, learners will be choosing a specific opinion topic that they feel strongly about and try to convince the reader to agree with them or make a change. Discuss with your child ways that commercials, ads, politicians, etc. persuade their audience.

Math Workshop: We began our unit in measurement in December, and will complete it this week. Knowing the difference between finding perimeter and area is crucial as our mathematicians move forward. Students will also be given a total perimeter and some of the side lengths, then determine the missing length. Area is a good time to revisit how multiplication can be a benefit to us. Lastly, in this unit we will find attributes of triangles and quadrilaterals, and be able to identify both. This will be the 1st unit that we are adding into our data notebook, starting with a pre-assessment and then monitoring our learning of standards throughout the unit.

We are also working on telling time to the minute and problems about elapsed time. Multiplication and division are another area that we continue to touch base on frequently, so continue to practice them at home!



Maths Class Norm:
Believe in Yourself, It Changes What You Can Do! Research has shown that if you believe in yourself and you make a mistake, your brain responds with more activity and brain growth than if you don't believe in yourself. Remember, you can learn anything!

Social Studies: The 3rd grade learners loved learning geography of the Grand Valley, as we then made it more broad and marked our place on the planet. In February, we will be working in stations to identify key places in the world in relation to where we live, including continents, oceans, important landforms, and countries and states that surround us. Geographers in the room will be in groups making and studying maps, playing map games, working on the computer, and putting together puzzles to reinforce this knowledge.

A good way to support your child would be to discuss and visit places around the Grand Valley and talk about their relationship to other landforms. You could explore globes and maps and point out map keys and how they are used depending on the map. Read books about geography, including an Atlas, if possible. There are games and videos online that also reinforce these concepts. More specifically, we will work on identifying bodies of water and landforms in the Grand Valley, Colorado on a map and surrounding states, countries surrounding the United States, and continents and oceans of the world.



Remind your child to
bring a jacket to
school everyday!

Code of Cooperation

***Focus and Listen*

***Be*

Responsible

***Creative*

And

Innovative