

Cherokee Enrichment (September 2009)

Kindergarten: There was a whole class lesson that was all about perspective, and how what one person sees may not always be what another person sees. We read this funny story called "Duck, Rabbit." Throughout every page of this story we were all trying to figure out what we were looking at, a duck? Or a rabbit? In the end we never really did find out, but we learned that sometimes people see things differently. We worked on a challenge packet that really made us think hard. Some smaller groups have started Language Arts by reading "Bad Dog Marley!" Math groups have been working on complex patterns and shape pictures.

First Grade Language Arts: We jumped right into our school year with two great stories. One was "An Extraordinary Egg." The other was "Wolf." These stories had some wonderful vocabulary words that we discussed and practiced. A few of those words were, triumphantly, astonished, commotion, industrious, confidence, and passion. Some of us had time to put on a "Wolf" play and even make some of our own puppets.

First Grade Math: We've worked with Shape puzzles, and coming up with alternative shapes to use. We also worked on a few story problems and filling in missing numbers. We're off to a great start.

Second Grade: We started our year with a whole class lesson that was lots of fun. We talked about "taking risks" with learning, and trying new things. We read a story called "Scaredy Squirrel." This story led to some great discussions because it was all about a squirrel who never wanted to try new things... he wanted his routine to be the same every day. One day he did try something new and things worked out.

After we heard this we tried a Second Grade Thinking and Challenge Packet, which took lots of persistence to finish. We've also started some smaller groups reading "Mice Twice," and "Grandpa's Teeth." "Grandpa's Teeth" was especially entertaining because Grandpa suspected everyone of taking his very expensive false teeth! Some of our vocabulary words that we worked on from this story were: conspiracy, mystery, and sleuth. Math started the last week of September with the Problem solving strategy, Guess and Check.

Third Grade: In Language Arts we've started a novel study group. The novel is "The Landry News," by Andrew Clements.

Stay Tuned for Math: Starting the week of Sept. 28th with the problem solving strategy, Logical Thinking.