

# 1-DG Update

## February 9, 2024

### Reminders:

February 12: Please bring valentines into school

February 14: Valentine Exchange

February 16: CAS program: *Lisa the Wise* shadow puppet show

February 19-23: February vacation week

March 8: RSVP for Math IN

March 13: Math IN 8:30a.m.-8:55a.m.

March 27, April 2 and 3: Spring conferences

### Highlights of our week

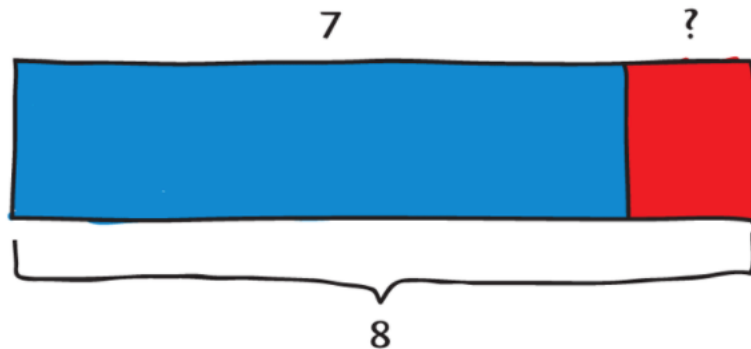
-We focused on blends that contain the letter "s." We built words such as: **skeleton**, **smell**, **sneaker**, **spoon**, **stairs**, and **sweater**.

-In *Foundations* we started Unit 9 which focuses on the concept of closed syllables. The students reviewed that a closed syllable has one vowel closed in by at least one consonant. A closed syllable gives the vowel the short sound. We mark this by scooping up the syllable and writing a small letter "c" under it. We also learned about vowel teams. A vowel team is two vowels together that make just one sound. We learned keywords to help us remember the sounds of the vowel teams we focused on this week. We learned ai-bait; ay-play; ee-jeep; ea-eat; and ey-key. Our new trick words are: say and says.

-In reading workshop, we started a new unit that encourages students to become a boss of their own reading. We learned that sometimes when we are reading, there will be "clunks" which are mistakes that we need to fix. When we study the problem, we can learn something new to solve it. We focused on tricky r-controlled vowels and read the stories "Mark the Shark" and "Bert the Hermit Crab." Copies of these stories are in your child's Home/School folder and students are encouraged to reread the stories to their families. We practiced identifying when we have a clunk focusing on a breakdown in comprehension. When this happens, we need to go back and reread to fix the clunk. We practiced retelling and checking in on our understanding while reading the book The Dinosaur Chase, by Hugh Price. Finally, we learned that we can also make clunks when we don't understand vocabulary words. We are working on slowing down and finding a solution when we can decode a word, but we don't understand its meaning.

-Monday was the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school. In honor of this special day, we learned the poem "100 is A Lot" and we completed an activity called "A Three Digit Surprise" by answering number clues and filling in a 100 Chart to reveal a surprise. We also played the "Money Exchange Game."

-In math we did *Quick Images* with Tens Frames and we focused on solving crayon puzzles. I introduced the strategy of using a bar model to help solve missing part problems. For example, *Danielle had 8 crayons. She had a mix of blue crayons and red crayons. She had 7 blue crayons. How many red crayons did she have?*



Please ask your child to demonstrate the bar model for you. We also played the game "Tens Go Fish."

-In social studies and writing workshop we learned more about community helpers and started our research projects. We are using books from *Epic*; databases like *PebbleGo* (the students learned how to use this database during library time); and books. We are using Seesaw to keep track of our research. Seesaw allows students to add photos, draw pictures, type, or use voice recording to keep track of their learning.

-Our *Second Step* SEL lesson focused on how to say a problem. This is the first of a series of lessons about problem solving.

-On Monday morning, Meagan and David Occhialini came in as special birthday guest readers. They read Lady Pancake and Sir French Toast: Short and Sweet, by Josh Funk. Thank you!

-On Friday we celebrated the Chinese New Year. Lyric Liu and Yizhi Sun came in to read a book and made crafts with the class. They did calligraphy, paper cutting and made lanterns. Thank you!

#### **Note:**

We will have a Valentine Card Exchange on Wednesday, February 14! If your child would like to give cards to his or her classmates, please address them at home (have your child write the names independently for practice) and bring them in on Monday, February 12 (this gives us time to distribute them before the actual day). To prevent hurt feelings, please bring a valentine for each student. Please do not attach chocolate or candy to the valentines.

-Dara Gaul