

2E News

9.13.19

Notes from Mrs. Elman

Dear Parents,

It was a pleasure to meet so many of you at Curriculum Night! I am looking forward to a wonderful year with your children. If you were unable to attend, a lot of the information is on my website, which is linked below. If you have any questions, please contact me. I know that with your help, we can make this a great school year!

Thank you to the many parents who signed up to be a mystery reader in our class this year. A mystery reader visits our classroom to read to the children on a Friday afternoon. You will need to sign in at the office as a visitor when you arrive at school. You should plan to come to our classroom at approximately 2:55 to read to the children for about 15 minutes. I will check the hallway at 2:55 to have you join us in the classroom. Please bring a book (or books) from home that you can read to the class during the mystery reader guest spot. The book that you choose can be a book that you pick out or it can be one of your child's favorites.

If you were unable to attend Curriculum Night, you can still sign up. If you would like to participate, please email me by Friday, September 20. After that I will be opening the available dates up to parents who already signed up but would like a second turn.

You can also access what your child is learning in art and music by subscribing to Mrs. Kurzawski and Mrs. Crutchfield's blogs at: [Art](#) & [Music](#)

Sincerely,
Karen Elman

**Mr. Rodrigo was our first mystery
reader!**



The Week in Review

English Language Arts (E.L.A.)

Lessons From Goldilocks

Goldie Socks and the Three Libearians by Jackie Mims Hopkins

We all know that Goldilocks was a little picky. She wanted things to be “just right!” We took this mindset to heart when we discussed finding books in our classroom library to make sure that the books are “just right” for each student.

The story Goldie Socks and the Three Libearians was the perfect read aloud to help illustrate the need to find good fit books. In order to help students determine books at their reading level, we discussed following the Five-Finger Rule that Goldie Socks used to find a book. The Five-Finger Rule is really quite simple and can be used by the children when choosing a book in or out of school. Students should just follow these directions:

- Find a book that seems interesting
 - Begin to read the first page or two
 - Put one finger up for every word that you don't know or can't pronounce
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- If you are holding up...
 - 0-1 finger - this book is probably too easy to read

2-3 fingers - this book is a "Just Right" book to read

4-5 fingers - this book may be too difficult to read at this time

If a book is too hard for you to read right now, don't be discouraged! With a little bit of practice you'll be reading it in no time! You also need to make sure you know WHO is in the story, and WHAT is going on. The main point of reading is understanding.

Inquiry

Northern Lights

In our reading text, Snowshoe Hare Finds a Winter Home, one of the characters, Duck, flies into the Northern Lights. We discussed what this meant. We took a virtual field trip with Mystery Doug to investigate what the Northern Lights look like and what causes them. The students learned that the lights are called auroras by scientists. They discovered that they are caused by gases from the sun and are seen near each of the Earth's poles. The children were amazed to see video of the auroras and enthralled by the movement of them across the night skies.

Math

Looking for fun nightly math practice? Check out Bedtimemath.org for a very engaging and interactive five minutes of daily math to keep those math brains growing!

This week's math workplaces have students working on skip counting by 2's and 5's as they play two different version of Count and Compare. In this game students must find the value of their card and determine if it's less than or greater than their partners. We also used number racks to show doubles facts. Students made connections between doubles facts and even numbers.

Learning in Action!



Narrative Writing

Students were excited to write and illustrate a narrative story.



Just like Goldie Socks

Students read their "good fit" books.



Happy Birthday!

We celebrated with this birthday boy this week!

Golden Paw Winners!



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