

# 2E News

8.23.19

## Notes from Mrs. Elman

Dear Parents,

We've had a great start to the school year! We have been VERY busy! Students are learning the routines and expectations of our class and school. We have started our first math and ELA units and we are getting to know each other and are building our classroom community. Your child is learning to be a successful 2nd grade student!

I have really enjoyed getting to know a little bit about each of the children this week and I am looking forward to learning even more throughout our time together. I am so glad to have your child in my class!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Elman

## The Week in Review

### ELA

Students practiced reading and writing short vowel words. They created a reading skills notebook to record this type of foundational reading skills work throughout the year.

We started ReadyGEN Unit 1, Module A this week. We have practiced the following reading routines this week: Think-Pair-Share, Turn and Talk, Whole/Small Group Discussions, Shared Reading and Benchmark Vocabulary. The students will be digging deeply into complex text and understanding communities during this module. We have started to read the story *Trouble at the Sandbox*. The students are really enjoying reading and discussing each chapter. Our writing is tied to our reading. We practiced writing using new vocabulary words. We answered questions about the story using evidence from the text to support our thinking.

**Try this at home: When reading with your child, have him/her identify the elements of the story: characters, setting, problem & solution.**

See the pdf below for more specifics on this reading module.

### MATH

Our first Bridges math unit lessons began with the students creating beetle glyphs to represent personal information: gender, favorite season, birth month, number of people with whom they live, and favorite sport. The class sorted the beetles in a variety of ways. In the process, the students learned about each other, built community and used a Venn Diagram model to sort.

The children also explored using different math manipulatives: unifix cubes, pattern blocks, tiles, and geoboards. In mathematics education, a manipulative is an object which is designed so that a learner can perceive some mathematical concept by manipulating it, hence its name. The use of manipulatives provides a way for children to learn concepts through developmentally appropriate hands-on experience.

**Try this at home: Practice sorting toys or other household items. Observe the collection, create sorting categories, then sort!**

See the pdf below for more specifics on this math unit.

### **INQUIRY**

We did a number of "get to know you" activities this week. We learned the structure of morning meeting and learned how to greet each other by making eye contact and using the name of the person we were greeting. Some greetings we learned were: electricity, handshake, high five, microwave and a very fun greeting to the tune of "The Addams Family." Have your child teach the greetings to you! The children also worked with partners to interview each other and then present their new friend to the rest of the class. We practiced our math and ELA routines with partners as well. The children had a great time going on a scavenger hunt to see which classmates fit certain descriptors.



ReadyGen Unit 1: Trouble at the Sandbox  
ELA Unit 1 Overview

[Download](#)  
88.3 KB



Bridges - Unit 1.pdf  
Math Unit 1 Overview

[Download](#)  
664.8 KB

## Learning in Action!



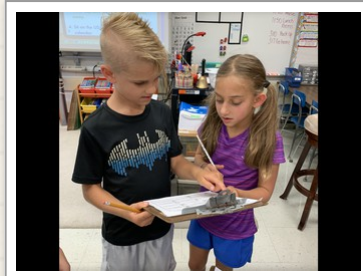
## Flag Ceremony

Raising the flag to begin the 19-20 school year.



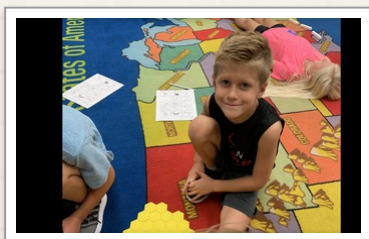
## Getting to Know You

Students interview a partner & then use what they learned to introduce them to the class.



## Scavenger Hunt

Students go on a scavenger hunt to find classmates that fit certain descriptors.



## Math Work Places

This student creates a beehive when exploring with pattern blocks.



## Math Work Places

Exploring & measuring with unifix cubes.



## Math Fun!

Students sort beetle glyphs using a hula hoop Venn Diagram.



## Mrs. Elman

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