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Room 102 Report

February 3, 2017



Let's vote.....groundhog or armadillo?

Every year groundhog fans gather in Punxsutawney, PA to find out if Phil sees his shadow. If he does and retreats back into his hole to go to bed, **[like this year]**, it's supposed to be another six weeks of winter. If he stays outside to play, it's officially spring. Well, in West Pole Texas however, they have an armadillo make the prediction! Unlike Phil, Bob the armadillo did not see his shadow around 12:30 p.m. at the West Pole; meaning spring is right around the corner. Armadillo power!

Literacy/Language Arts

We've been working on writing standards **W2.5** [*strengthen writing as needed by revising and editing*] and **W2.6** [*use a variety of digital tools to produce and publish writing, including in collaboration with peers*]. The children used Google Slides to create digital postcards that we are sending out as part of our Flat Stanley project. Speaking of, the Flat Stanley project is a result of our current PBL focus, *how can we learn more about the world outside of Illinois by connecting with others?* As you know, last week we read the story Dear Juno - a story about communicating across distances that are not just geographical but linguistic. We brainstormed different ways people communicate today, and are using our letter-writing skills to explore the world beyond us. In addition, we have entered a collaborative project with a school in India where we will explore the similarities and differences between our two school environments. This project links both with our language arts and social studies.

Social Studies-

We started our World Communities unit. We shared Sandy Lynne Holman's book, We All Have a Heritage. Key vocabulary introduced: *heritage, traditions, culture, customs, holidays, ancestors, immigrants, languages*. We began learning about Mexico by looking at its history. This week we read about the ancient civilizations of the Maya and the Aztecs. We made connections between Mexico's native peoples and the Native Americans of Illinois about whom we studied earlier this fall.

Math

This week we took some time to apply the addition skills the children were working on the past few weeks. Partners or small groups played 3 Addends, Hit the Target, and Basketball Addition. On Thursday, the 100th day of school, we tested ourselves to see in 100 seconds how many times we could: clap, hop up & down, write our name, and make tally marks. Then we used coin exchanges to play Race for a Dollar.

Notes & Reminders:

Feb 17th - End of 2nd Trimester

-Family BINGO Night

Feb 20th - No school, Presidents' Day

Feb 24th - Report Cards distributed

A message from the PTA:

We need pictures for the yearbook!

If you have any pictures you'd like

to see in the yearbook, please

share them with Mr. Michalski, at

the email address

hlspta.yearbook@gmail.com

February Birthday

Zaid - 11th



Students may bring valentines to pass out on the 14th. You must have one for each member of our class if you do. If needed, extra class lists are available on our classroom Weebly.