

## 4th Grade News 9-27-19

### What We're Learning:

**Reading:** This week's mini lessons covered how to read intensely to grow substantial ideas. We practiced "stop and jots" when we had important information to collect/share with others. We also talked about how to make sure what books we are choosing are not too hard and continue to develop a culture of reading in our room. We also started differentiated small groups which I like to call WIN (What I Need) Time. Students practiced how to do a chronological retell of what was read and synthesizing that information into a summary.

**Writing:** Students continue to make exciting progress with their realistic fiction stories. This week we worked on revising our work in multiple ways. Students took the time to revise their lead, elaborated on setting and worked on the difficult task of weaving together action, thought, and dialogue. While not all students are ready to end their stories, we also talked about methods to write powerful endings.

**Math:** This week was comprised of a lot of review work on rounding using a model, the vertical number line. We also learned the "shortcut" to rounding without using a model. Ask your child what this looks like. Students can round up to the nearest hundred thousand and have applied this knowledge to real world situations, asking themselves what makes sense when rounding in real situations. We also reviewed for our mid-module assessment and took the assessment today.

**Science:** Science work continues with our Earth, Sun, Moon mini-unit. Students learned about Earth's shape (there's no flat earthers here!) and how gravity works. We learned that gravity is an invisible force that acts upon all objects. We

also got to take part in an amazing visit from the Pacific Science Center's in-house field trip to the planetarium.

### **In Other News:**

**Fees:** Please make sure you take the time to pay for both the planner and planetarium fees online if you have not done so already. If you have any questions or if this causes a financial hardship, please let me know.

**Volunteers:** I appreciate volunteers! Please note that if you plan on volunteering in the 2019-20 school year, you must update your credentials each year. You may update or fill out a new application at <https://issaquahvolunteers.hrmlplus.net> Volunteer scheduling will begin in October, so stay tuned!

**Snack:** We have already exhausted our PTA snack for the month of September. If you would like to donate a peanut and egg free snack to the class, we would appreciate it! Thank you to the Bressan family for donating snack to share!

**Reading at Home:** Do you want to help your child "Blast into Reading" this year? Have them participate in the Apollo PTA's Read At Home (RAH) program! Your child should have received a RAH Reading Challenge worksheet from school. If they didn't, visit: [www.apollopta.ourschoolpages.com/Page/Programs/RAH](http://www.apollopta.ourschoolpages.com/Page/Programs/RAH) If your child completes the worksheet and turns it in by **December 2, 2019**, they will get the opportunity to pick out a new book for free!

**Calendar of Events:** Please refer to my website's homepage, Apollo Rocket E-News, or the Apollo PTA's website for up-to-date information on upcoming events!