



# Room 109 Weekly Update

December 15, 2023

**Heggerty** - This week we continued to listening for blends. We have also continued to work with magic e and some short o/long o words since the Magic E is a special letter with that can change a short vowel sound within a word to make a long vowel sound. For example, in the "con", the o makes the short o sound, but in "cone" the o becomes a long o sound where it says its name. We are starting the notice the magic e hiding in a lot of words as we read and write

**Fundations** - This week we continued working in Unit 6. We have been practicing the two sounds for s. We have learned that s can make the /s/ sound like in snake, but it can also make the /z/ sound like in bugs. This understanding can be applied to how we spell words that have the suffix s. This week, we learned that the suffix s is also used to show action, or something happening at the present time. For example, think about the sentence "Jan lugs the rocks up the hill." To spell "lugs", many students would spell it lugz. However, if we remember our rule to spell the base word first (lug), then we would add the suffix. Since "z" is not a suffix and we know that the s letter also makes the /z/ sound, we would spell lug + s = lugs. We have also applied this to our reading. If we come across a words that is unfamiliar and it ends with an "s", we could see if the "s" is a suffix and try to read the base word first, and then read it by adding the suffix. Reading and writing are extremely interrelated with helps to make our connections meaningful in multiple ways!

**Reading Workshop:** During Reading Workshop this week, we have been learning about a different informational topic. With the season of Hanukkah upon us, we have been learning about some of the traditions and the history behind Hanukkah. We have watched videos and read the story "Latkes and Applesauce" by Fran Manushkin and "The Chanukah Guest" by Giora Carmi and been practicing our retelling by telling the beginning, middle and ending of the stories. We also learned how to play the dreidel game! It is a wonderful time to recognize and share our diverse traditions. Learning about our difference and finding similarities is an important part of building a strong community!

## **Writing**

This week, we have continued to work on creating an information book on bats. We have illustrated and named different types of bats. We have learned where bats live so we have had some geography lessons learning about the world around us. In addition to defining vocabulary such as equator, continents, and ocean, we have been introduced to the names of the 7 continents. We then learned that bats live on all continents, except for one - Antarctica. We then recorded this information on the map page of our book.

**Math** - This week, we continued our unit "Show and Make Sense of Data." This week we continued working on reading and interpreting data as shown through bar graphs. We have been learning how to read the data (ex. we can count each box on the bar graph or we can use the numbers on the graph to read/count the amounts which is more efficient, less time consuming, and less prone to careless errors.) We have also been learning how to compare data, being able to find out how many more or how many fewer/less objects are in the graph.

## Other news

One more week until vacation, but the upcoming week will be super busy! Just a reminder that it is Spirit Week next week, so each day has a different theme. Students are encouraged to show their school spirit by dressing according to the theme, but this is optional. 😊

**Spirit Day Monday:** Favorite Sports Team

**Spirit Day Tuesday:** Crazy Hat and/or Socks

**Spirit Day Wednesday:** Crazy (Ugly) Sweater

**Spirit Day Thurs:** Fancy Day

**Spirit Day Friday:** PJ Day and Plushie (students may also bring a stuffed animal)

I hope that you have a wonderful weekend!

April Fuller