



# Room 109 Weekly Update

November 3, 2023

**Heggerty** - We are continuing to show growth with our skills in Heggerty. Our rhyming skills are really coming along, which really shows how perceptive the class is becoming at listening for ending sounds and making sure that they match. This will be a strong foundation as we continue to build our knowledge of spelling words, because we can use our "If you know (how to spell sick), then you can spell (thick, quick, lick, etc.). We have also been working on listening and discriminating the different vowel sounds in the middle of words. I am so proud of all of our hard work! Way to go, Room 109!

**Foundations** - This week we finished Unit 3. We have continued to work with writing words with digraphs and also noticing digraphs in texts around us. Throughout the week, we have also been exposed to different concepts such as compound words, R-controlled vowels (we'll be learning more about these soon), as well as multiple meaning words (such as saw which could be a tool like a chain saw, or it could mean the past tense of the word "see") and homophones (words that sound alike but are spelled differently and have different meanings, such as the word "mail" and "male"). We are also rocking our sight words by recognizing them immediately in our reading or being able to spell them automatically! All of our practice at school and at home is definitely strengthening our reading, writing, and spelling vocabularies. Thank you for your help at home!

**Reading Workshop:** During Reading Workshop this week, we have continued to build our stamina with reading books on Epic, but we have also had a chance to Buddy read. Being able to read in multiple ways (by ourselves, with a partner, with an adult), really helps us to build our fluency, use of strategies, and confidence. We have been showing stronger independent work habits as well. These kiddos are rocking how to use our technology in so many ways! This week, we were introduced to using See Saw as another platform for learning (not just for parent/teacher communication). You may have seen some free drawing creations where we have been exploring how to use the different virtual drawing tools (pencil, pen, highlighter, and fancy marker), as well as change the color. We have been learning how to complete an "assigned" job from Mrs. Fuller, where we have been practicing our trick words by spelling/writing these words using these virtual tools. It is so amazing how much first graders can do if we give them a strong foundation of skills and time to practice and explore!

**Writing** This week, we revisited the concept of sequencing events using the vocabulary "first, next, then, last." We are working on sequencing different pictures and then writing about them using these sequencing words. We are continuing to look for and check for appropriate capitalization and ending punctuation, while making sure that each sentence tells a complete thought.

**Math** - This week, we finished our unit on Concrete Addition and Subtraction. Our class really used the tools to "prove" their answers. When solving problems in math, we focus on the 3 E's - what is Easy, Efficient (not taking too much time) and what is Effective (or what helps us to get an accurate answer). Using tools is important, but also knowing which tool to use to help us use these 3 E's is a foundational skill. If we know what tool is best for us when solving more "concrete" and simpler problems, we can then also

use these tools when solving more complex problems. Most of the class did really well, but we do have a few "speeders" that rush through their work and don't consistently check for accuracy. We will continue to work on these skills throughout the year.

### Other news

I appreciate your help confirming your conference times by Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. This gives us time to reschedule any conferences that may now have a conflict. Also, please be sure to return the conference questionnaire so I can plan ahead to address any questions/concerns you have during our conference. Thank you!

Reminder - Picture Retake Day is Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. If you need another envelope for a student who was absent, please let me know and I can send another one home. Also, if you would like to have your child's picture retaken, please have your child bring back the original photos on November 15<sup>th</sup> and I will have them retaken that day.

Don't forget we have a short week next week, due to our Observance of Veteran's Day next Friday.

Have a wonderful weekend!  
April Fuller