

Kindergarten

PS 33 Chelsea Prep -- January 2020

Curriculum Updates

Reading Workshop - Students will begin the “Bigger Books, Bigger Reading Muscles” unit this month, which focuses on a shift from reading mostly familiar texts to reading more difficult books with greater independence. Students’ books will have far trickier patterns and may contain dialogue, actions, prepositional phrases, higher-level “snap” words, and more. During the first “Bend” of the unit, students will compare and contrast easy books with more difficult books and notice what makes books more challenging: more words, more complex patterns. Students will learn to monitor their own reading by asking themselves, “Did that make sense?” and “Did that sound right?” These skills will lead us to Bend II, which will focus more deeply on letters and sounds, including ending sounds, consonant clusters, and more!

Phonics - We will be finishing our “Word-Part Power” unit, which ends with a focus on using word parts to create silly rhymes, and using all our word parts (ip, op, ap, an, at, it, in, etc) to spell new words. We then transition into Unit 4, “Vowel Power”. This unit makes the leap from students’ identifying mainly consonants when spelling words to learning to add short vowels in single and multisyllabic words. The unit begins with students discovering that all words have vowels and students use their “Vowel Shield” to study short-vowels within consonant-vowel-consonant (CVC) words.

Writing Workshop - During the beginning of January, we will continue with narrative writing in our “Writing for Readers” unit. This unit continues our focus on writing true stories that have a clear narrative with a beginning, middle and end. We are pushing students to write more sounds in their words as we learn about vowel sounds as well as adding correct punctuation. We will then transition back into informational writing with the ‘How-To’ writing unit. The “How-To” unit, which is a procedural writing unit, begins with a focus on breaking a task into simple steps and writing a book on how to do it. Students will both write about what they already know (ex: how to play soccer) or about new things they learn to do in class (ex: how to make a friendship bracelet). The writing will also focus on sounding out words, segmenting, and distinguishing more sounds!

Math - During the current math unit, entitled “Counting Quantities, Comparing Lengths”, students will continue to develop ideas of place value and the structure of our base-ten number system and the meaning of operations with whole numbers. Counting and comparing are both integral ideas on measurement, which is another focus of the unit. Students will develop ideas about measurable attributes and the techniques, tools, and units used to measure each of them.

Important Dates

January 9 - Sesame Street Live Trip Slips/\$ Due & K221 to The Whitney Museum

January 20 -MLK Day - NO SCHOOL

February 14 - Sesame Street Live

February 17-21 - Winter Recess

February 26 - Field Trip to Museum of Natural History