

Cherokee Enrichment
January 2010

Kindergarten LA: We read “The Three Snow Bears.” This story was an “arctic” version of the Three Little Bears. It was fun to draw the comparisons with different versions. We also read a story called “Have you Seen the Crocodile?” This story had a surprise ending and also let us come to our own conclusions. Our last story for January was, “The Monster and the Playhouse.” This story was about friendship and we were able to discuss what it’s like to have a good friend, and how a person can be a good friend.

In **Kindergarten Math** we’ve been working on Sunshine Math. We made a “fireman math booklet” full of beginning math facts. We have had lots of fun with the Math Mat, which really tests our number sense, and some beginning math facts.

First Grade LA: This month we read a story called: “The Five Dog Night.” We found a new way to describe a cold night. By the end of this story we knew the difference between a two dog, three dog, or five dog night! Then we decided what kind of night we had the previous night. We read about “revenge,” in a story called “Montezuma’s Revenge.” It was about a dog who tried to get even with his family who left him behind when they went on a vacation. Some of our vocabulary words were, misery, regret, mesmerized, coaxed, and frustrated. We also did some creative writing and we wrote stories about fish. All of us either wrote about an imaginary fish, or we wrote about a fish we at one time owned.

First Grade Math: We’ve been working this month on problem solving strategies such as, Looking for a Pattern, Make a Table, and Act Out or Use Objects. We’ve been working on some Algebraic Thinking like mystery pages where we have to find the missing numbers. We’ve also been busy with Double Digit addition and subtraction, time, and money.

Second Grade LA: We’ve been reading stories with a winter theme. Our first story was about Snowflake Bentley. We found out all about the research he did and his fascination with snowflakes. We also read a special story called, “Anna, Grandpa, and the Big Storm.” This was realistic fiction story about a blizzard in New York City back in 1888. It

was quite an adventure. We found out how different life was back then before television, phones, and computers!

Second Grade Math: This month we concentrated on “Make A Table” and “Using Logical Reasoning” math strategies. We’ve done double-digit subtraction and addition using a number line. Math games we continue to enjoy are Niktu, Mathematics, and Head Full of Numbers. We’ve also had fun with Thinking games, Blokus, Rush Hour, and Mastermind.

Third Grade LA: One group has started an Author Study. We’re learning about Chris Van Allsburg and reading some of his stories. We’ve had fun with his stories because they’re very unusual and usually have some fantasy to them.

Another group has just finished the novel “Superfudge.” It was unanimous; we all thought that book was very funny. We were always curious about what trouble Fudge was going to get into. We also discussed change and how it can help someone grow, and the importance of having family around to support you.

Third Grade Math: We’ve been working on some very challenging math. We started a new strategy, which is “Guess and Check.” This has been an interesting strategy because we learned that we actually use it a lot and just don’t realize it. We’ve been working on logic problems, story problems, and continental math.