

April 5, 2010

March flew by but the enrichment students at Sheridan were still able to make it a productive and beneficial month of learning! The kindergartners, 1st graders, and 2nd graders all continued to practice higher level thinking skills and work to their highest potential.

The kindergartners have been introduced to using clues to solve a logic problem, writing a first book report, and how to write a letter to a friend. Bananagrams has become a favorite game as well.

In math, it's all about counting beyond 100 now! The children are starting oral counting with numbers above 100 and identifying greater than and less than with those same numbers. They are using a place value board to write numbers between 100 and 999 and a hundreds number chart to aide them in adding and subtracting. There is also a great desire to play the 9 piece magic puzzles and Blokus!

The first graders at Sheridan have been reading high interest stories such a Grandpa's Teeth, The Cow Who Wouldn't Come Down, and A Bad Case of Stripes. With each story they learned 5-6 new vocabulary words and practiced using these words both verbally and in their reader responses. Some of the vocabulary we discussed were the following: contagious, distraction, perplexed, disbelief, and fragrant.

First grade math activities have included many logic problems, strategic games, and problem solving. The children have used geometric shapes to build objects in a challenge called Architecto, used their logical and deductive reasoning skills in the game called Mastermind, and practiced their thinking skills while using tangrams and pentominoes.

In second grade, the students have focused on their writing skills with fun topics such as explaining how to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich and describing and supporting why they like either warm or cold weather. The second graders have become much better at peer editing and proofreading their work!

We have found geometry and algebra to be some of our favorite topics in math. The students in 2nd grade enrichment have enjoyed expanding on solving for x and creating geometric designs using a ruler and protractor.

We will look forward to even more in April!