

Classroom Times

News from Room 205
Jacksonville, FL

February 9, 2009
Volume 1, Issue 17
Mrs. Cowan's Class

Monitor and Clarify

This week we are still focusing on the strategy of monitor and clarify. When you monitor as you read, you stop to ask yourself if what you have read makes sense. You may then try to clarify what you have read by re-reading it. This strategy is also frequently used when determining the meaning of unknown words.



Techie Thursday

Techie Thursday was a success last week. 11 students completed an activity and were able to eat lunch in the room. This week, if your child completes 2 activities using Destination Success at home and makes 1 comment on the blog, he/she will be allowed to eat in the classroom on Thursday. Mrs. Cowan will be showing all participants something special during lunch. We will check Thursday morning to see how many have complete activities. To comment on the blog, simply select an entry on the blog and then click the comment button underneath it. Your comment will appear once it has been approved. We hope to have many students joining us on Thursday.

Proud Panther

Proud Panther enjoyed his journey this past week with Brionna. He is now excited to be visiting Jordan this week. Jordan has been working very hard. Way to go Jordan! If you have a moment, please check out his blog. He has already been to quite a few places.



Volunteers

This is just a friendly reminder that parents are welcome to volunteer. Just give us a time when you are available and we will have something ready for you to do with the students, whether it is reading with a student or playing a learning game. You are also welcome to be a "Mystery Reader" as well. This is when you read a book to the class. Please feel free to contact us anytime. The students would love to have you come by for a visit.

Important News Flash: The homework will now be posted on the blog for your reference. The address for the blog is <http://mrscowansclass.blogspot.com>.

This Week's Homework

Daily: Read 20 minutes AND LOG IT!

Monday: Reading - Day 1, Math -practice sheet, Spelling - do something creative

Tuesday: Reading - Day 2, Spelling - first 9 words in a paragraph, Math - practice sheet and study for test

Wednesday: Math - practice sheet and study your times tables, Reading - Day 3, Spelling - last 8 words in a paragraph ☺

Thursday: Reading - Day 4, Spelling - study, Math - practice sheet

Friday: Have a great weekend and READ!

Spelling Words: gym here hour insect jeans knew lawn new north officer scene scurried second seen skin soft turn

Thank you for your support. Thank you for all of the snacks for our class! We appreciate it!

Reminders to Students

- The Club Einstein and Brain answers are due on Friday, February 13th. They will be emailed again with the newsletter.
- Homework is due daily!
- We are still in need of baggies and Kleenex. The baggies can be of any size. They are frequently used for activities in class.
- Be sure to LOG YOUR BOOKS! Some people did not log their books so they could not get credit for them

Recommended Web Sites

<http://www.mrscowan.com/parentfcatresources.htm>

This is a list of links for a wide range of FCAT prep sites. There are math, reading, and writing sites as well as previous tests and sample books. Please feel free to check it out.

<http://www.amnh.org/ology/>

This is the link for American Museum of Natural History. If you have a moment, please feel free to check it out.

What are we studying?

Reading - main idea, supporting details, monitor, clarify, story maps, drawing conclusions

Mathematics - paces, coordinates, graphing

Writing - informational writing, paragraph writing, researching

Science - geographical features, layers of the Earth

Social Studies - transportation, citizens, current events

Grammar/Phonics - homophones, verbs, verb tenses, suffixes and prefixes

Mrs. Archer's Resources

P.E.: Red Day 9:45-10:15

Music: Green Day 10:15-10:45

Media: Green Day 9:45 - 10:15

Art: Orange Day (wk 2) 9:45 - 10:45

Computers: Orange Day (wk 1) 9:45 - 10:45

Mrs. Cowan's Resources

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Important Dates

- Reading tutoring: Thursday, February 12th. Tutoring is from 3:15 until 4:15.
- Book Club will meet on Friday, February 13th at 7:30 this week.
- Brain Buster and Club Einstein are due Friday, February 13th.
- We will have a small celebration on February 13th. Details will be sent home today.
- Schools will be closed on February 16th in honor of President's Day.
- We are still looking for Mystery Readers. If you would like to read a book to the class, please contact us.