



Fundations: This week we will continue to work on words with blends and learn about digraph blends. This is a digraph and a consonant that blend their sounds (shred, bench). Remember, each consonant (or digraph) in a blend, keeps its own sound.

Students have also begun to learn about the r-controlled vowel sounds (or, ar, er, ir, ur). While they will not be assessed on these sounds, it is important that they begin to recognize them in their reading and writing.

Trick Words: **who, what, when, where, there, here.**

Reading: We will continue to practice gathering information from the photos or pictures in our nonfiction books. We will begin to read the words to learn more and review word solving strategies when we get stuck. We will practice "chatting" about what we learn in our nonfiction books. Our chat should tell what is happening in our own words. What do you see? What is happening? Why? Sometimes when we get to the end of the book and have our chat, we realize we need to go back and read again to remember all we learned. Nonfiction books have so much information that we should read and reread. We can practice retelling what we learned by telling the topic of a book and give several details or examples!

Writing: Students will work to write and finish our best stories by adding as many details as possible. We can use specific action words (verbs) to help our readers picture what is happening (my fingers wiggled, my toes curled). We can show what characters said using speech bubbles, tell what they look like or tell more about where our story takes place. We will need to edit and color our books before we can share them with others!

Math: We will continue to work to solve subtraction equations with previous learned strategies like counting back, making a 10 and using fact families. We will introduce the ability to solve subtraction facts using related addition facts. If I know that $7+3=10$, then I can figure out $10-3=7$. We will use what we have learned about subtraction strategies to solve word problems. What clues or words tell us that we need to subtract? While students have a variety of strategies to solve each word problem, they should work to explain why they chose a particular strategy for a particular problem. Was the number close to 10? Did they know a related fact or even a related doubles fact? Was it effective to count back? Students should try to explain their mathematical thinking.

Social Studies: Families of the past have the same basic needs of people today. We all need food, water, clothing and shelter. How did people of the past get these things? How are they different than the food, clothing and shelter of today? We will continue to explore how families lived long ago and compare it to life today.



Reminders: (please see the back)

If you need to reach me by email, please contact me at ehavel@scsmustangs.org or send me a Remind message. Our class website is whitney1h.weebly.com

Reminders:

- We have music this week.
- Our class will be going to the **Holiday Shop on Thursday!** This is an exciting opportunity for the children. I understand that not everyone celebrates Christmas and/or that money can be difficult to spare at this time of year, however, allowing your child the opportunity to participate in the shopping/buying process with their classmates would mean SO much to them, so please consider sending in even a small monetary amount for them to at least experience the process.
- Friday's spirit day is Ugly Sweaters or Holiday gear!

Repeat items:

- Green folders should come every afternoon and be returned to school each morning (even if they are empty).
- Reading logs (calendar format) will be checked each Monday. Students with marked logs receive a sticker and green dojo for the week. If you forget, please send the next day.
- Library books are due back each Thursday. Please remember your book so that you can get a new one!
- Please see Mrs. Hawk's newsletter for a link to join PTA. You do not have to attend meetings to be a member. They would love to have your support!
- Water bottles are allowed during the day but should be completely closeable (screw on lid). *Please do not send juice or soda, unless it's to be taken to lunch.*
- Your student may bring a **snack** to eat in the morning during breakfast. Please pack his/her snack separate from his/her lunch to save time digging through lunches! He/she should be able to manage the snack on his/her own. Thank you!
- Your child should be practicing his/her **student ID** number.
- Take some time to practice **shoe tying** with your first grader if needed.