

BCSKINDERGARTEN

September 25, 2014

Students learning about the equipment that fire fighters use



September Learning in Room 17

By Dorothy Sears

What we've been working on the last two weeks:

Language Arts, Writing, and Social Studies

For the last few weeks in Language Arts, we have been continuing to work on learning our capital letters through our Handwriting Without Tears program. Some of the letters that have been more difficult for students to write in the right

direction and formation are capital letters "M" and "N", and "W". Please spend time reviewing this with your child. We have also been working on learning our color words through a variety of activities involving read alouds and choral reading.

During our morning message and reading activities, students have been learning about different punctuation marks, such as the period

and exclamation mark. We have also been working on learning sight words and how to spell them. The last two weeks your child has learned the following: and, I, like, the, is, a, see, you, and go. The students have really enjoyed the various sight word songs that I've taught them to help them spell and recognize sight words. When reading with your child, please ask them about different punctuation marks,

finding capital and lowercase letters and sight words. Please also practice closing the book and have them try to retell the story without looking back at the story.

In Social Studies, we continue to practice citizenship and following the classroom and school rules, which incorporate the Six Pillars. When student-student conflicts arise, the kindergarten teachers and I are teaching students to talk to the person who upset/bothered them first. If the conflict is not resolved after that, then the student will let the teacher know and help them resolve the problem. During class, we have also been practicing how to say the "Pledge of Allegiance" and placing our right hand over our heart.

We also started our community helpers unit. The students first learned what a community helper is and then we made a KWL chart of what they wanted to know and what they were wondering about. We are saving our "L" (learned) for the very end of our unit. Because of our trip to the fire station this week, we started learning about fire

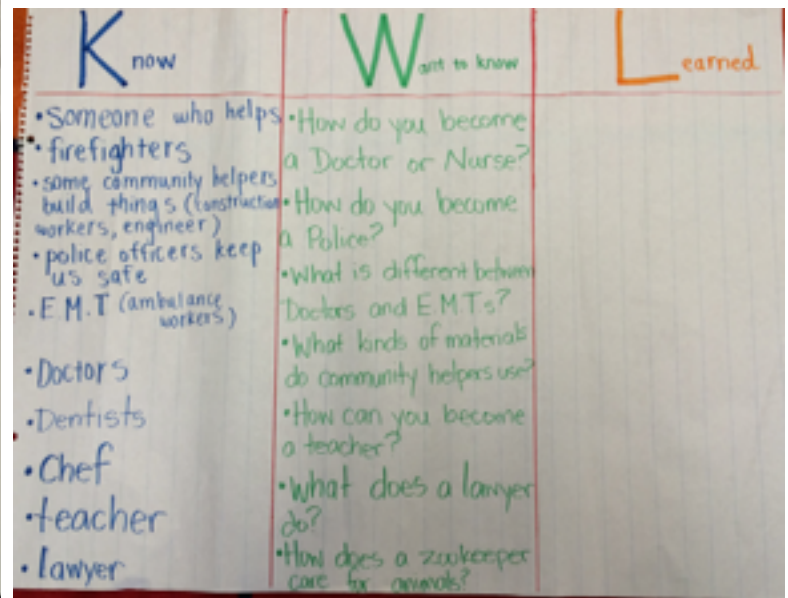
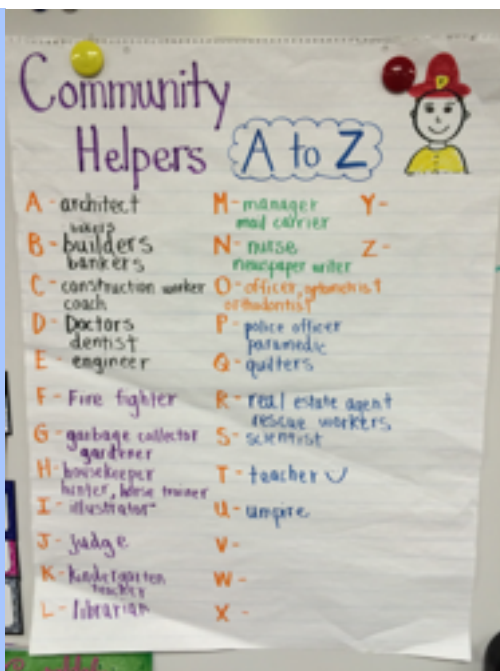
fighters first. We talked about "stop, drop, and roll" and the different fire equipment that a fire fighter uses to do their job.

Students drew a picture of a fire fighter and labeled the different parts/equipment that they use. They orally told me a fact(s) that they learned about for that community helper and wrote a sentence(s). They were given a mini-lesson on starting their sentences with a capital, checking if they accidentally used capitals in the middle of their sentence, leave spaces between words and ending their sentence with a period.

The class also really enjoyed going to the fire station on Wednesday! The students loved seeing the fire truck, practicing stop, drop and roll, seeing different tools and equipment, the beds they sleep in, and the fire truck drive drive off on an emergency call! The students also did an amazing job walking there and back!

Our Community Helper A-Z chart of community helper names that start with that letter.

The day we started our Community Helper unit, we did a KWL chart (What do you know, Want to know and Learned) to find out what the class



Math

In Math, we are working on counting from 1-100, counting by 10's, and "counting on" from a number. For example, if I asked your child to count on from the number 6, your child would start at that number and keep counting upwards (6, 7, 8, 9, 10, etc.). We continue to work on writing the numbers correctly--in the right direction, correct formation and not backwards. Please practice writing the numbers 1-20 (or higher!) with your child. The numbers after 11 can be tricky; sometimes students will write "21" for the number "12". We continue to practice various calendar skills such as months of the year, days of the week, seasons and weather.

Miscellaneous Information:

Scholastic Book Orders: In your child's Thursday Folder this week, there were several September and October leaflets of Scholastic Books that you can order from. If you would like to order books for your child, please register for your parent account, enter our class code and place your order online.

Please place your orders on or before **September 29th**. On September 30th I will place our class order and it should arrive in a week or two to our school—just in time for Halloween! I will put your child's books in a ziplock bag and have them bring them home to enjoy with you.

Volunteer Google Doc:

Please consider volunteering for the Staff Appreciation Luncheon chair for our class. You and the four other kindergarten chairs will help with planning and organizing this event for the K-5 teachers. The staff really appreciates and loves the luncheons that each grade level puts on. I have to say that is a highlight that I look forward to every month.

Conferences:

Thank you parents for signing up so quickly for your FLG Conference time! I am currently working on putting together your child's Focused Learning Goals and am excited to meet with you in just a few weeks!



Left: Fire fighter Angela put on her fire fighter suit

Right: Fire fighter Angela showing the students the kitchen