



# First Grade News



Ms. Emerson

May 20, 2016

## Maps

*This week students put together a project that helped them understand where they live. The project layered different sized circles starting with their home on the smallest. The second was their city, then state, country and continent. The bottom part was an earth they painted using crayons and water colors. We also spent some time exploring on Google Maps, which is something they enjoy doing during computer lab time. It's great to see them get excited to learn about different places around the world.*



## Reading

This week we spent some time discussing **author's purpose**. Students discussed why they thought the author wanted to write the story. Was the author trying to teach a lesson? Were they informing people about something? Did they like making people laugh?

By discussing the purpose, students are challenged to think more deeply about the book.

## Phonics

This week we built words with **-or** and **-ar** (controlled r). We also reviewed many of the other spelling patterns we have learned this year and played spelling games to help review.

## Dates to know about:

*Computer Lab- Monday, May 23*

*Library Day- Tuesday, May 24*

*Early Dismissal- Friday, May 27*

*Memorial Day (No School)- Monday, May 30*

*Mr. Kaas Food Drive- May 31-June 10*

*Zoo Field Trip- Thursday, June 2*

*Final AR Points Due Date- Monday, June 6*

*First Grade Field Day (Pizza Lunch)-*

**Tuesday, June 14**

As the school year comes to a close there are house keeping things to keep in mind.

- **Lost and Found** is overflowing at Columbia. Please check to make sure your student isn't missing any clothing. The clothes will be donated at the end of the year.
- **Library books** must all be turned in by **June 3<sup>rd</sup>** so the librarians can start inventory.
- Please make sure you have no outstanding charges for lunches and that students have money in their accounts if needed.

## Homework and Math Information

This week we began looking at shapes and fractions. Students had a pretty solid existing knowledge of basic plain shapes and quickly caught onto the idea that fractions are about equal parts. We practiced identifying halves and fourths and divided shapes into these parts. We also discussed 3D shapes and the names of these shapes.