



# MES Board Communications

## May 2018

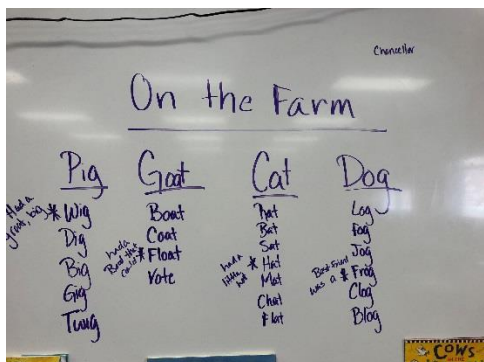
### SPECIALS

**PE-** Monaco Elem is getting geared up for our annual field days. K-2nd will be Friday, May 11 and 3rd-4th will be Friday, May 18. K-2nd will have basketball dribble, jump rope races, sponge races, tennis ball throw, sack race, sprint race, buddy ball relay, soccer dribble relay, and a sno-cone race. The combined field day with Brockett 3rd-4th is a huge endeavor to pull off, but well worth it. Brockett/Monaco 3rd-4th will be doing 40 yd dash, kangaroo hop, racquet relay, tire flip, obstacle course, tug of war, human wheel barrow race, buddy ball relay, jump rope races, basketball dribble, long jump, and a pyramid challenge. After field days are over, we will be playing some of our favorite running, dodging, fleeing, and throwing games to finish the year.

**Computer-** Students are continuing to work in technology stations and are participating in different activities at each station that teach computer science, engineering, and creative thinking. At station 5, students practice their sight words and computational thinking using the Beebot. They program the small robot to move along the mat to the various squares that match the sight word.



**Music-** Kinder became composers and wrote their own song using the writing process! It's called "On the Farm!" They created songbooks that they illustrated as well! 1st and 2nd Grade began doing drum circle! We incorporated pulse, syllables, math, and even our spelling lists! 3rd and 4th Grade learned a really cool body percussion routine to "Everything is Awesome" by Tegan and Sarah from *The Lego Movie!*



## **KINDERGARTEN**

Kindergarten at MES!

Things are really blooming and crawling in Kindergarten.

ELAR: Writing sentences and using the editing process to find mistakes.

Math: Addition and subtraction review. Using word problems to make an addition or subtraction sentence.

Science: Plants and Insects. We enjoyed building a ladybug habitat and observing our little insects for multiple days.

Social Studies: Community Helpers and the importance of having them.

## **FIRST GRADE**

ELA – First graders are currently writing about a time they had with a friend such as a sleepover, using lots of details, wow words, and transition words.

They will soon enjoy making several things for Mother’s Day, including a flower with things they can do for mom, cards, and a paper to tell about all the things they think mom is really great at doing.

Reading – First graders are finishing up their review of multisyllabic words such as open and closed syllable words, as well as consonant + le words. Students will soon work on leaning about prefixes and suffixes, as well as synonyms and antonyms.

Math – Students are finishing their unit on telling time to the hour and time to the half hour. We will soon be review all of our math TEKS for our end of year testing. Students will later enjoy playing math board games together.

Social Studies – Students are working on a Texas book to show and describe facts about the great state of Texas including the state motto, flower, tree, flag, and bird.

Science- Students are patiently awaiting the arrival of their first butterflies to hatch from their chrysalis. Students have begun researching an animal online. They are collecting facts to make into a research paper for teachers to publish.

First Grade will be participating in a camping unit in a few weeks. Students will enjoy playing camp themed games, using camp themed Daily 5 materials, making a goldfish camp graph, and singing camp songs. At the end of the week, we will wrap up the camping until with s’mores!

## **SECOND GRADE**

What a great month we have had in Second Grade! We worked hard researching animals of many kinds in Reading and then wrote all about them in Writing. To follow that up, our students took a fun filled trip to Sharkarosa Wildlife Park and had great fun seeing some of these animals, face to face. Everything they had studied, came to life right before their eyes. In Science we continued the same theme, discussing animal needs and adaptations. With the foundation laid in research, the connections made were strong. In Social Studies, we have learned about financial literacy, in a very real and practical way, using classroom economies. They were able to earn, spend, and save pretend money. In Math, they began laying the foundations for multiplication and division strategies. This will prove very helpful when they move to Third Grade. All in all, it has been a wonderful year in Second Grade!

## THIRD GRADE

Third grade is finishing strong!!! We have been working hard to prepare for the end of the year where we can show all the skills we have learned this year. Some highlights were.....

**Math:** Classroom rotations which included lessons focusing on - perimeter with a missing side, geometry review with attribute sorting, 2 step problem solving, etc.

**Reading/Writing:** Reviewing concepts through ability grouping and scoots; dictionary skills, synonym and antonyms

**Science:** Learning about Ecosystems/food chains with linking activity and popcorn food chain kinesthetic activity.

**Social Studies:** Making predictions about our reading with Predication Cafe (paired with mixed-pair-share); writing biographies on a historical figure

**Genius Hour:** STEM chair activity (building Cinderella's chair out of only paper (no cutting), as well as Earth Day grocery bags.

**Special Olympics:** We sent our friends off and they shined!!!



## **FOURTH GRADE**

In math and reading we have been focusing on STAAR strategies and preparing strategic areas of focus to target student weakness that we gleaned from our data disaggregation through our grade level PLC meetings. We have been targeting these areas for our students in order for them to have success and feel confident as they approach the next set of STAAR tests.

In Science we have been studying the water cycle, weather, and patterns on earth in relation to the sun and moon.

In Social Studies we have been learning about Texas ranchers, the railroad, and are moving into studies over the topics of the “oil boom” and “dust bowl.”

In writing we have been creating persuasive essays and learning how they can be used to persuade, inform, or entertain readers.

This is a very busy and focused time for our team as we work continuously and diligently to hold high expectations for our students and to create a sense of preparedness for our classes as our students face the STAAR tests. Our students are ready to show off all their academic advances that have they have accomplished throughout their entire 4th grade career.

## **Library**

Monaco Library is gearing down for summer. All books are due on May 18. On May 31, students with clear records will be able to check out up to 10 books for the summer. Students will also have the option of reading a Tower of Books over the summer. Students who read 20 books over the summer and turn the form into the library the first week of the new school year will receive a prize.

## **Gifted & Talented**

Wow, the year has really flown by!! Mrs. Turner has enjoyed going into the kindergarten and 1st grade classes to do whole group lessons this whole semester. The 2nd graders are finishing up google slide presentations about themselves. The 3rd graders will finish up their google slides on a game they have researched and then they will present it to the class. The 4th graders are finishing up their Enigma research projects and creating board games to share with the class. They students have been hard at work and so willing to find out more information to present to the classes on all these topics. Through out the year, Mrs. Turner has enjoyed watching and nurturing these students grow and strengthen their higher levels of critical thinking skills while working toward being world class!