

## Mrs. Comeau's Parent Note

March 2018

### Theme:

This month we will focus on the rainforest. The children and I will be exploring the climate, animals and human inhabitants of this important ecosystem. We have plans to produce a rainforest revue show in mid-April for our families. The tentative date is April 12 from 6:30-7:45. Keep your eyes open for your formal invitation!

Language Arts: We learned about the great American author, Dr. Seuss on Friday in honor of Read Across America day. We had a lively conversation about the writing/illustration traits of Dr Seuss compared to the style of last months' author, Mo Williams. Super interesting to hear what your kiddos had learned about story elements (character, setting problem and solution) AND how different authors approach their craft!

In order to maximize our learning about the rainforest, we will be learning about non-fiction (informational) text. We will look at NF text features such as table of contents, maps, diagrams with labels, photos and drawings with captions, etc. We have been experiencing the idea of identifying the main idea and supporting facts in many of our units so far. (i.e. arctic and desert animals, US symbols, etc). We will deepen our understanding of gathering information by researching a rainforest creature, taking notes together and compiling that information into a report about our animal. Think of us as junior researching scientists! We will also be creating posters and 3D models of our animal, which will be on display at our rainforest revue show in April.

### Math:

Our math studies have taken us further into the world of addition and subtraction, by looking at the concepts of decomposing. (fact families:  $5=2+3$ ,  $5=1+4$ ,  $5=0+5$ ). We will be moving onto those tricky teens. We will spend a great deal of time understanding the make-up of a teen, "it's a group of 10 with some left over". We will also continue to strengthen our other number skills such as counting to 100, "before and after", counting by 10's, and word problems.

Science/social studies: Our science Friday studies will center around our rainforest theme. We will look at temperature and thermometers, how rain if created the cycle of "life" that occurs, moms and babies, and how the trees and plants of the rainforest exist in this cool ecosystem.

### Upcoming Events:

-Parent conferences: March 14 and 15. Forms will come home soon. If these dates/times do not work for you, I would happy to do a phone conference.

-Early Release day: March 23