

February Newsletter

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

Important Information:

We are SO proud of how hard the students worked on ACCESS, the annual language proficiency assessment, these past few weeks. We know it was a lot of testing, but they gave their best and showed their full potential. We are very proud of them!

We also want to highlight African American History Month as well as the Lunar New Year. For African American History Month, you can access resources through [NASA: Black History Month](#), Share America [Black Composers: Shaping America's music](#), and The National Gallery of Art: [Meet an Artist: Alma Thomas](#).

For the Lunar New Year, [The Smithsonian National Museum of Asian Art](#) has valuable resources as does the [National Geographic's Lunar New Year](#) site.

Kindergarten

Kindergarteners will finish up unit 7, which focuses on **Kings and Queens**, and then will move into unit 8: **Seasons and Weather**. They will:

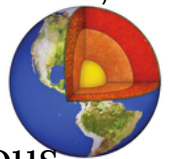
- describe and discuss types of weather
- use keywords to describe the characteristics of each season
- distinguish between things that happen gradually and those that happen suddenly
- expand sentences by adding prepositional phrases
- describe the job of a meteorologist
- express opinions about a favorite season



First Grade

The students in first grade will begin unit 7, which focuses on **The History of the Earth**. They will learn the following language skills:

- describe the surface of the Earth using prepositions
- connect ideas using conjunctions
- categorize items as solid, liquid, or gas
- read about and categorize three types of rocks: igneous, sedimentary, metamorphic
- compare and contrast the jobs of paleontologists and geologists
- categorize living things as plants or animals



Second Grade

Second graders will finish up their research unit about aviation, and will move into unit 8, **Insects**. They will work on the following skills:

- recognize names and images of different insects
- identify body parts of insects
- add details to sentences by using adverbs
- recount stages of metamorphosis
- compare the text type and purpose of an informational book



Third Grade

Third graders will continue learning about **Astronomy** in unit 7. They will focus on the following language skills:

- share information about the Big Bang Theory using sequence words
- identify celestial bodies in our solar system
- apply an understanding of suffixes to determine the meaning of new or unfamiliar words
- use possessive nouns in written and spoken word



Fourth Grade

This month, 4th graders will finish unit 4: **Eureka!** **Student Inventor** and begin unit 5: **Geology**.

Currently, students are analyzing objects and situations in the world around them, identifying



problems, and creating evidence-based solutions throughout unit 4

In unit 5, students will learn how heat and pressure affect earth's layers, creating geological features such as mountains, volcanoes, and trenches.

Fifth Grade

Fifth graders will begin unit 5: **The Renaissance** in which they will learn how travel and trade led to wealth, power, and influence, allowing merchants and businessmen to support artists.



Students will learn about the accomplishments in architecture, sculpture, and painting.

They will conduct research about a famous Renaissance artist in order to compose a biography.