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Science: We are noticing how knowing the characteristics of living things helps us classify. We began with insects. We will move on to amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals as our unit progresses.

Word Work: words introduced this week were: then, when. Blends this week were: -sh, -ch. The students practiced a sort using sh and ch in the beginning and ending position.

Reading: The students practiced reading with expression and noticed the punctuation while they were reading. We discussed the way different characters may sound when they speak. This tied in nicely with our writing lessons.

Next week Friday we will have a wintery day! I have many winter activities planned. In the morning we will write compliments to each other and each student will make a “surprise” for another student in our classroom. After that we will make a melting snowman cookie for snack.

Math: This week was all about measurement. Rulers, tape measures, standard and non-standard units of measurement…

The students did a great job measuring objects around the room using inches.

Writing: Students have been noticing what the Author and Illustrator Mo Willems does in his books. They have noticed that authors and illustrators use feelings and expression in their writing. The students are discovering many ways that they can show that in their own writing too. Ask them some of the things they noticed in the Pigeon and Knuffle Bunny books this week. Ask them if they tried to write like Mo Willems and how they made it their own idea.

Mrs. Fontaine’s Classroom News

December 10-14, 2012