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Science: Our essential question is: How does knowing the characteristics of living things help you classify them? We began by discussing the vocabulary words of characteristics and classify. Then we had a classroom activity of how we could classify our classroom students by their different characteristics.

**Word Work:**  The words we worked on were: have, said, and made. We had a sort with words that began with p, l, and pl. I introduced our last short vowel sound –e-. The students practiced spelling words with one and two syllables with the short e.

\*\*We welcome a new student into our classroom community this week. Rowan began on Monday. We are very excited to have her!

**Math**: We are getting to the end of Unit 3. This week we focused on part, part, total and playing domino top it. The students also learned about a plot line and using the data from our tally chart to make a plot line. Another great game we learned this week was the penny, nickel, dime exchange game.

**Upcoming Dates**

Dec. 5th- book swap

Dec. 7th noon release

Dec. 24-Jan. 1, No school

**Reading**: The students have been working on making sure that what they are reading makes sense and then looking through the word and making sure that it looks right. We also read Enemy Pie this week. While reading we practiced stopping and making predictions or stating I wonders.

Mrs. Fontaine’s Classroom News

November 26-30, 2012

**Writing**: We wrote a list of our top favorites about the Winter Concert. Some of the students also started to use mentor texts such as Donald Crews, 10 Black Dots to inspire them to write their own versions of stories using dots or other shapes.