

A NOTE FROM

Mrs. Skipba



Week of October 19, 2026

Upcoming Dates and Reminders

No school Thursday & Friday this week. Enjoy your Fall Break.

Reading/Lectura & Writing/Escritura:

For reading and writing, we wrapped up our project inquiry week. The focus for the week is shown here:

Essential Question: How can a place affect how we live?

Project Focus:

Students will conduct a short inquiry project that builds knowledge about a playground/park.

Students will create a brochure to argue that a place should be made a landmark.

Students spent time researching the different parks in our area. They decided on a park of their choice, made an argument for why that park is the best and why it needs to be taken care of, and made a final brochure that included a claim, provided 3 reasons with evidence to support their claim, and included visuals and sources.

Math/Matemáticas:

Math/Matemáticas:

This week, students built multiplication arrays and explored relationships among place values in base ten.

Students also used base ten area pieces to model and solve 1-by-2 and 2-by-2 digit multiplication problems.

Unit 2 Overview:

[English](#)

[Spanish](#)

Week of October 12, 2026

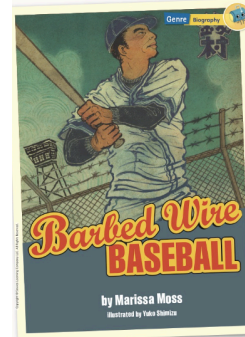
Upcoming Dates and Reminders

Reading/Lectura:

This week in reading, students learned about Japanese internment camps during WWII. We used this knowledge to better understand the story, "Barbed Wire Baseball." An inspiring story about a Japanese-American, Zeni, who created a baseball field and teams at one of the internment camps. We practiced looking for chronological signal words so that we could write a summary of the most important events.

Unit 1 Overview:

[English](#) [Spanish](#)



Writing/Escritura:

Students began the publishing step in our 5-week writing routine, and they were able to type their final piece. Our spelling and language focus was on sentence fragments and spelling words with the prefixes mis-, en-, and em-.

Academic Vocabulary

contribute
exposed
significant
severe
habit

Math/Matemáticas:

This week, students finished Unit 1 by taking an assessment. We also touched briefly on measuring in centimeters and mass vs. weight.

Unit 1 Overview:

[English](#) [Spanish](#)

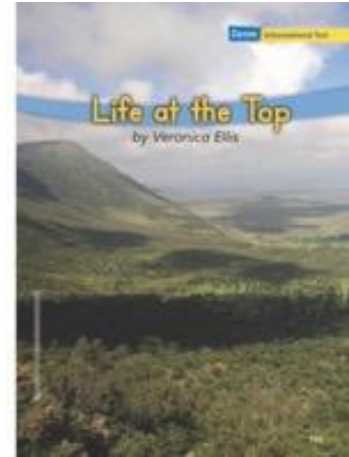
Week of October 5, 2026

Upcoming Dates and Reminders

Sign up for conferences [here!](#)

Reading/Lectura:

This week in reading, students read, **Life at the Top**. This informational text taught us about high-altitude training in Kenya, Africa. Students identified nonfiction text features such as subheading to help them determine the main idea. Then they found details that supported the main idea.



Writing/Escritura:

Students continued the drafting process for their narrative writing. They worked to develop their writing by editing for adjectives, adverbs and pronouns. Our spelling and language focus was on run-on sentences and words with vowel teams and digraphs (e.g. increase, acquaint, and virtue).

Academic Vocabulary

endurance
excel
capacity
drive
motivation

Math/Matemáticas:

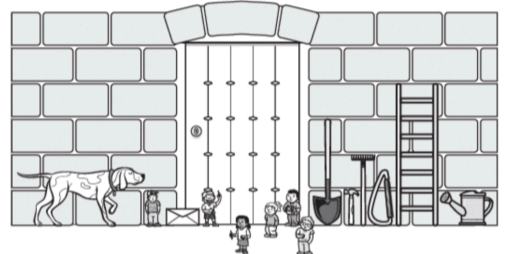
In math, students focused on factors, products, multiplicative comparisons, and equations. In order to best support your scholars at this point in the year, we recommend you work on multiplication and division facts. You can start with multiples of 0, 1, 2, 5, and 10. Once those are mastered, you could begin working on multiplying by 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9. [Here are some ideas](#) you could implement at home!

Unit 1 Overview:

[English](#)

[Spanish](#)

Multiplicative Comparisons at the Giant's Door



The shovel is 3 times as tall as the hammer.
The boy is 2 times as tall as the envelope.
The rake is 4 times as tall as the envelope.

Week of September 28, 2026

Upcoming Dates and Reminders

- The Stoner Prairie PTO Fun Run will be held tomorrow at Stoner Prairie during the school day.
- There is an **optional** math assignment on Google Classroom that kids can do to practice factors, multiples and products ahead of our Unit 1 math test on 10/5. They can check their answers within the assignment for accuracy.

Reading/Lectura:

In reading, we read "Twins in Space" and practiced identifying the main idea and determining key details. We discovered many different effects that outer space has on the human body. We also learned content-specific words like DNA, chromosomes, telomeres, etc., to better understand the changes that happen to the human body.



Writing/Escritura:

Students continued the drafting process for their narrative writing. They worked to develop an introduction, an event sequence, and a conclusion. Our spelling and language focus was on complete sentences and words with the VCe pattern (e.g., educate, impose, and recognize).

Academic Vocabulary

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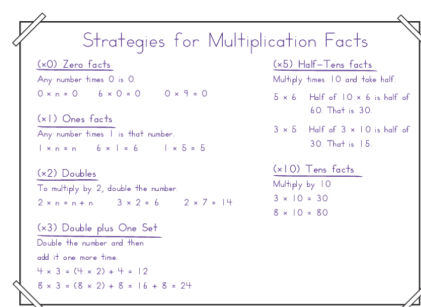
Math/Matemáticas:

Students investigated factors of numbers and determined whether numbers are prime or composite. Students also focused on multiplication fact fluency by playing workplace games.

Unit 1 Overview:

[English](#)

[Spanish](#)



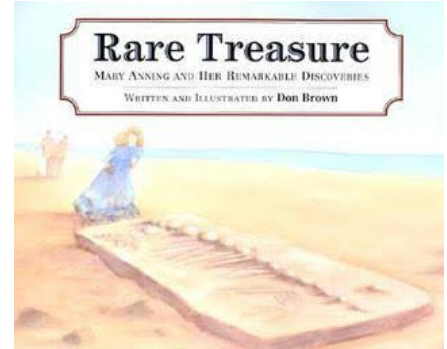
Week of September 21, 2026

Upcoming Dates and Reminders

- The 3rd annual Stoner Prairie PTO Fun Run will be held Tuesday, 9/29 at Stoner Prairie during the school day. All students participate in this fun event combining health and wellness with fundraising for the PTO.
- Picture day is this Wednesday, the 23rd.
- Verona homecoming is also next week. Stoner Prairie will celebrate with spirit/dress-up days each week. [Those days can be found here.](#)

Reading/Lectura:

This week in Reading we investigated our Week 2 question of "In What Ways Can a Place Enrich Our Lives?" We discussed where we live and then read two stories about other places to live and how those places enrich the characters' lives. One of the stories was a biography about Mary Anning, one of the first women paleontologists, called *Rare Treasure*. Identifying characteristics of biographies and generating the main idea supported by key details were targeted in our mini-lessons this week.



Writing/Escritura:

Students began the early drafting part of our writing routine. We worked on developing a narrator and setting, while also focusing on including sensory details to help our readers paint a picture in their minds. Our spelling and language focus was on simple and compound subjects and predicates, as well as spelling and understanding words with suffixes -ment, -ity, -ty, and -ic.

Academic Vocabulary

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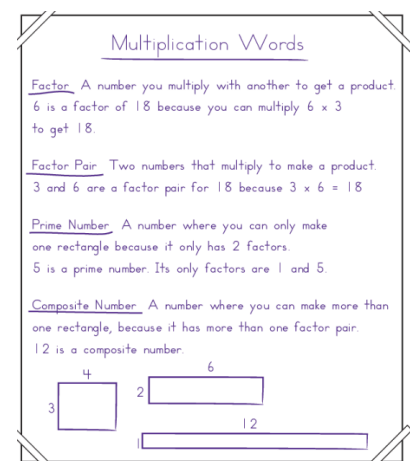
Math/Matemáticas:

This week we took the Number Corner baseline assessment and made posters with arrays to show the factor pairs for multiples from 1-36.

Unit 1 Overview:

[English](#)

[Spanish](#)



Week of September 14, 2026

Upcoming Dates and Reminders – Fechas Futuras y Recordatorios

- If you haven't signed up for **ParentSquare** yet, please do so as this is a main form of communication! www.parentsquare.com.
- The fourth-grade team will be sending home math packets at the end of most weeks. These are always optional but strongly encouraged. If students do complete the work, we suggest having them bring it back to school, and I can look it over. We hope to build good habits that will help them succeed in the upcoming years. Each math unit consists of 4-6 modules, but we only send home one module at a time. They got their first packet in their backpacks Friday.

Reading/Lectura:

Our spotlight genre this week was narrative nonfiction. Students learned to identify narrative elements of nonfiction as well as the author's purpose by reading "Reaching for the Moon" by Buzz Aldrin. As we continue with our unit, students will be exposed to more personal narratives so that when it is time to write their own, they have many models to choose from.

Unit 1 Overview:

[English](#) [Spanish](#)

Writing/Escritura:

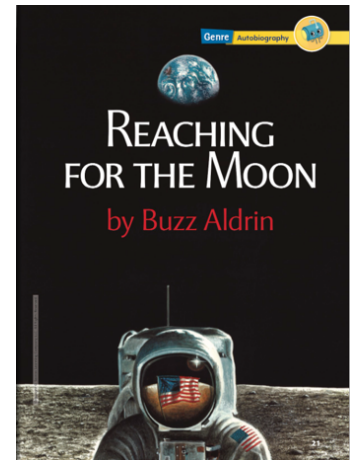
We began our first week of Unit 1: Personal Narratives. Students read examples of personal narratives to learn how authors write them and began the planning process for their own personal narratives. We practiced spelling verbs with suffixes: -ed, -ing, -s, and adjectives with -er and -est. We also practiced identifying complete subjects and complete predicates in sentences.

Math/Matemáticas:

In math last week, students reviewed multiplication strategies such as open number lines, ratio tables, arrays, and area models. We also began connecting multiplication to division.

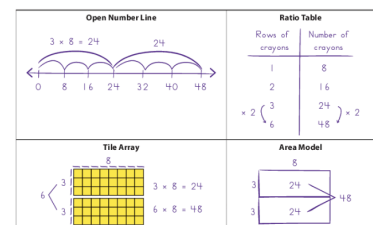
Unit 1 Overview:

[English](#) [Spanish](#)



Academic Vocabulary

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Optional: [Home practice](#)

Week of September 7, 2026

Upcoming Dates and Reminders – Fechas Futuras y Recordatorios

Classroom Directory Sign Up - [Canva Sign Up](#)

Reading/Lectura:

We launched Unit 1 with the Essential Question: **How can a place affect how we live?** We had some great conversations when answering this question and will continue to do so throughout the Unit. We also have a question that we will be answering each week throughout the unit. Week 1 question is: **How can visiting new places expand our understanding of our place in the world?** Our lessons will continue to revolve around these questions and the weekly questions that follow, as we study different places to live, narrative nonfiction genre, word study, and our academic vocabulary.

Unit 1 Overview:

[English](#) [Spanish](#)

Writing/Escritura:

We will begin our writing unit this week. Last week, we spent our writing time building a classroom community through a variety of activities.

Math/Matemáticas:

We will start our first math unit this week, "Multiplicative Thinking". Last week, we reviewed routines and expectations and started looking at the September Number Corner pattern. You could ask your scholars what they think the pattern will be for September!

Unit 1 Overview:

[English](#) [Spanish](#)

Academic Vocabulary

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Optional: [Home practice](#)