



# Tadpole Talk

Mrs. Sickmiller's First Grade News

The end of the school year is approaching very quickly and I am trying to find some fun and exciting ways to motivate your children for the summer. One of the packets I am making that is available for parents is called: **SUMMER SURVIVAL KIT**. Included in this kit is a calendar from June-August. Each day (Monday - Friday) during the summer there is a 10 minute activity for your child to do for reading, math, or writing. All of the materials, supplies, and activities are provided in the kit. For example: Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup> might say, "June is National Dairy Month, write a letter to a cow thanking her for her milk." The skill they would be working on is letter writing. It is just some fun and easy ideas that you will not have to make up and think about because it will be provided for you. If you would like this kit please respond either on your child's homework log or a written letter to me. Please remember this kit is to bridge the gap between first and second grade. The activities are not anything new to your student but activities that reinforce what they have already learned.

The second activity is Raz-Kids. Please remember that all your children are set up on raz-kids.com. My username is ssickmiller. This reading activity is done through the computer and will be available to you all summer long. I will be going in and changing the reading levels of your children if they have reached a higher level than what they are currently on.

The third idea is a Summer Reading Program through the Tiffin Library. Last year, quite a few of my students signed up and completed this program. If your child does not have a library card this would be the perfect time to get them one. It would also be a great way to teach them responsibility. Call the Tiffin Library to see what they have available this year.

The fourth idea is the New Riegel Summer Reading Program. More information will be following later this school year. I am just trying to provide parents with plenty of support. Please do NOT hesitate to ask me if you would like something specific for your child over the summer. I will be more than happy to help!

## Ice Cream Party

Currently we are working on a class behavior goal for an ICE CREAM PARTY! We are working to earn 30 stars in the next couple of weeks. Students can earn stars for working quietly, when everyone works as a team, being kind and considerate, and things that promote good character! I hope we can earn this party sooner rather than later. I will be setting up an ice cream bar for the students to make their own ice cream sundaes. They are very excited and can't wait to earn this reward! AND I can't wait either!!!

## Reading

Please remember each night to read the baggie book OR read for 10 minutes with your child and complete a 5-Finger Retell.

1. Who were the characters?
2. What was the setting? (Where did the story take place?)
3. Beginning
4. Middle
5. AND End of the story!
6. Also remember to ask your child to tell you the main idea of the story.

**Word Family:** \_rd

**Skill:** Synonyms

**Word Wall Words:** old, any, same

**Theme of the Week:** The Farm

**Vocabulary Word of the Week:** absorb

## **Math**

Skill: Measurement

Review: Money, Addition, Subtraction

Last week we learned about measuring. We practiced with nonstandard units of measurement. This week we will be measuring with feet, inches, or centimeters.

Please remember to practice the Rocket Math flashcards each night. Remember when your child reaches a new high score that will become their new Rocket Math Goal! Goals are getting higher and higher and students are getting very excited to pass their new math level! Great job with all your help at home!

## **Scholastic Book Orders**

I am sending home the final time to order Scholastic Book Orders. It is important for your children to read over the summer. Since there are many books to choose from this would be a great way for your children to enjoy reading. If you would like suggestions for your child's reading level I would be more than happy to assist you in this as well. Book orders are due by: TUESDAY, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012. Thank you for all your support in book orders this year!

Please remember that all your children are set up on raz-kids.com. My username is ssickmiller. I can tell that some of the students are working super hard and achieving high goals. This is going to make them into a great reader!

## **Reading and Math Expectations**

Keeping your child on level during the younger years of school is very important for their growth and development. I would like to see all of my children be on these levels by the end of the school year...

**Rocket Math:** Passed Addition Level J, Begun Subtraction

**DRA Reading Level:** Passed 16

**Reading A-Z Reading Level:** Passed I

**STAR Comprehension Level:** 2.0 or higher

\*On Wednesday, I will be completing your child's reading testing for the year. Please look for the levels coming home later this month.

## Important Dates

April 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> - Scholastic Book Fair  
April 18<sup>th</sup> - Testing for Reading and Math Dibels and DRA  
April 20<sup>th</sup> - Summer Readers Ice Cream Party!  
April 22<sup>nd</sup> - Elementary Music Program @ 7pm  
April 23<sup>rd</sup> - OSS Awesome Earth!  
April 24<sup>th</sup> - Ritz Field Trip  
May 1<sup>st</sup> - Final Scholastic Book Order Due  
May 2<sup>nd</sup> - PTO Meeting @ 6:30  
May 10<sup>th</sup> - Toledo Zoo Trip  
May 11<sup>th</sup> - Muffins for Moms  
May 13<sup>th</sup> - Happy Mother's Day  
May 14<sup>th</sup> - Board of Education Meeting @ 7  
May 15<sup>th</sup> - Realeyes Presentation  
May 24<sup>th</sup> - Last Day of School - Elementary Fun Day!

Have a GREAT Week!  
Mrs. Sarah Sickmiller