

November 2009

Dear Parents,

Our classes have enjoyed learning about South America. They have been working on locating all the countries, important cities and locating their capitals on the map, using longitude and latitudes. We have also begun class discussions on the importance of preserving the rainforest and its natural habitat and how it does not only affect South America but the rest of the world.

During Math time, students had some trouble with "number sentences," however by doing problems on the board in whole group and coming up with different ways to obtain answers they have begun to understand and show it in their work. One of the tools we used to improve our understanding was working with fact triangles. We are also reviewing adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing. We are currently working on unit 4.

In Language arts, we are diligently working on reading skills that will help students advance their learning. We will be targeting reading skills that help students recognize the main idea and summarizing key ideas. During grammar time, we have been working on how to form suffixes and how to recognize them. We are happy to inform you that we are in the process of finishing our first stories, and they are great. Be sure to ask the children for them, I hope you will be as proud of them as we are.

Keep up the good work!

Patricia and Michelle