



The Converse Connection

December 2020



Dear Parents,

I hope everyone had a fantastic and restful Thanksgiving! My first day of parent/teacher conferences went very well. I am looking forward to meeting the rest of you on either the 2nd or 3rd. During our remote learning time, please be sure your child has the weekly packets for math and reading, the December Fun Packet, the reader called *Gran*, along with their craft box. Your child should have on their headphones on, but keep in mind that when they unmute themselves, we can hear everything going on in your house. Please be sure your child is sitting in a quiet room so we don't hear background noise when they are participating in a lesson. Thank you! 😊

Listening & Learning - The Listening and Learning stories will be posted on my Google Classroom for the children to watch. The first grade teachers will introduce the vocabulary and read the story to the children. This month, stories will be posted on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. In our next domain, students will be introduced to fairy tales that have been favorites with children for generations. Students will learn about the elements of fairy tales that distinguish them from other types of fiction. They will also learn that fairy tales have the elements of character, plot and setting that are found in other types of fiction. By becoming familiar with particular fairy tales, students will be able to add these tales to their collection of stories that they are able to retell orally. Reading these fairy tales will help first grade students develop a strong foundation for the understanding of other fictional stories in later grades. Fairy tales included in this unit are Sleeping Beauty, Rumpelstiltskin, Rapunzel, The Frog Prince, Hansel and Gretel, and Jack and the Bean Stalk.

Reading - In Unit 3, the Reader is called **Fables**. Students will practice newly learned decoding skills while reading stories from **Fables**. The Reader is comprised of decodable versions of famous fables, most of which are originally attributable to the ancient Greek storyteller Aesop. Fables are special types of stories that teach important lessons or morals. Fables often feature talking animals as main characters. **Fables** will be used in a variety of instructional groupings, including whole group, small group, partner reading and independent reading. In Unit 3, we will begin having weekly spelling tests. The Spelling lists are located in the children's



Take Home folder. The grammar exercises in Unit 3 focus on verb identification and verb tense. Students will practice identifying whether a verb represents an action that is happening in the present or one that happened in the past.

Math - We have begun Unit 2 which includes 11 lessons. Learning objectives for Unit 2 are to:

1. Solve word problems with three addends, two of which make 10
2. Use the associative and commutative properties to make 10 with three addends
3. Make 10 when one addend is 9
4. Compare efficiency of counting on and making 10 when one addend is 9
5. Use the commutative property to make 10
6. Make 10 when one addend is 8
7. Compare efficiency of counting on and making 10 when one addend is 8
8. Solve problems with addends of 7, 8 and 9

Soon, I will be sharing information for a math website called Freckle. It is a kid friendly website, which offers adaptive lessons to build foundational skills. Freckle will allow each child to practice math skills at their level. The website will also give me insight as to how much their skills are growing and where they can use extra help. There is a Freckle icon to click, located on their district homepage.

