



# BRONCOS

Rocking Horse Review • January - April 2024

## This school year is halfway done!

We have now reached the middle of the school year. In the upcoming months Broncos students have many fun-filled activities and events in store. The Broncos students have all been working very hard to master letters, numbers, shapes, etc. As we continue to review, learn and practice these topics we will also introduce sight words to the class. This will be done using songs, games, and individual activities. We will be utilizing a sight word board to teach sight words as well as many other topics. In the next month, we will learn about animals, their habitats and hibernation. As a STEAM activity, we will use small plastic cups and counting bears to create small caves for our bears. We will stack and see how high we can stack. We will discuss which animals hibernate and which animals adapt to the weather. Another subject we will learn about is insects. The class really loves to talk about the different insects we see during outside time, so I am sure they will love this. Some of the other things we will be learning about is our five senses. We will use our senses to smell different spices, feel different textures and we will also play sound bingo to sharpen our listening. The Broncos will also learn about the different way we can be and stay healthy, such as keeping healthy routines and habits and eating well. We will also learn about how to stay safe when there is an emergency. Some of the milestones we are trying to accomplish is writing and spelling their first and last name, work cooperatively with their peers, and how to self-regulate and problem solve. Another thing that we are working on is simple math such as  $5 + 5 = 10$  and learning how to

identify numbers to 30. Students will get to make an edible mud pot consisting of ground Oreos, cool whip, and gummy worms. We will observe the butterfly lifecycle. Students will get to see a step-by-step process of the lifecycle and watch the caterpillar hatch. We will have our very own butterfly garden in the classroom as well as a ladybug land. This unique experience allows students to observe the growth, development and the metamorphosis of a ladybug and a butterfly. As we explore the butterfly lifecycle, students will also get to do an experiment where they will learn about chromatography. This project is hands-on, allows each student to be creative, and includes STEAM.

Students have been working on using their words to solve problems and working it out with each other as we guide them. As we move forward, we will start to encourage more and more independence among students. We will encourage independence through a variety of everyday classroom tasks such as fixing cots before nap, zipping-up our jackets, packing up our lunches, and more. Family-Teacher conferences are right around the corner, and we are excited to share your child's progress. Assessments will cover letter recognition, number recognition, phonological awareness, rote counting, shapes and observed classroom behaviors. Families who are attending a conference will receive a report card of their child's progress. Graduation will be here before we know it. It is the most anticipated day as we see our little ones excited to enter a new adventure, and we are thrilled to share this moment with our students and families. We will begin preparing students for this event and their transition to kindergarten too.

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