



*Junior Achievement:*

Last year the students in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade participated in a program called Junior Achievement. This program taught them about how communities work. It is a program that lasts about 5 weeks and involves a half hour of instruction per week. One interesting thing about the program is that the teacher is not allowed to teach this program. A parent needs to be in charge of that half hour each week for the length of the program. The teacher is required to stay in the room, and perhaps help with classroom management, but the parent leads the activity. Junior Achievement donates all the materials needed and has a short training session for the parent volunteer (I think they even conduct the training session over the phone, but I'm not sure). I'm wondering if any of you would be interested in teaching the program. Please let me know if you would be interested. Here is the website if you would like more information: <http://www.jaum.org/>

*Math:*

We have been working on chapter 4 in math. This chapter works on the change between numbers. It focuses on "real life" situations, as Everyday Math tries to with most concepts. One of the concepts is the change in temperature. This concept also fits into our IB weather unit because we discuss how weather changes affect the lives of people and the environment.

*Reading:*

We are reading 2 realistic fiction stories this week and part of next. One is in Spanish (Sr. Putter y Tabby vuelan un avión) and the other is in English (Henry and Mudge). We have been discussing the genre of realistic fiction and what to look for when reading a story of that genre. We also talked about how to remember that fiction means that a story is not real. Ask your child to tell you the trick he or she learned to remember what can sometimes be hard to remember.

*Websites:*

I found some math websites that you might want to try out. Some of the fun games would be good to get the children practicing the math concepts, while having fun at the same time. Here they are:

*Money website:*

<http://arcytech.org/java/money/money.html>

<http://www.quia.com/mc/65704.html>

*Time websites:*

<http://www.primarygames.com/time/start.htm>

*Basic Facts:*

<http://www.aplusmath.com/Flashcards/index.html>

<http://www.funbrain.com/math/>

*Coming Up:*

- *December 4th - Report Cards Go Home*
- *December 8th - PTO Meeting*
- *December 16th - McDonalds Night*
- *December 20th-January 4th - Winter Break*