

Grant At a Glance

Grant Elementary School ◦ 8511 County Rd WW ◦ Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494

From the Desk of Mr. B...

Lil' Rafter's Reading Month



The month of April marks the beginning of Spring and Grant School's annual participation in the Lil' Rafter's Reading Program. During the month, students in each grade level will set a reading goal. Students have from Monday, April 1st to Tuesday, April 30th to meet their goals.

Each student who meets their goal will receive 2 free tickets to Grant School's Night at the ballpark on Thursday, June 6th. Additional tickets at a special school price will be available for families to purchase as well.

I hope all of our students choose to participate, reach their reading goals, and develop a love of reading at the same time.

Happy Reading,
Mr. B.



April 2019

Phone: 715-424-6766
For Attendance Press 1
Fax: 715-422-6384

**PLEASE CALL BEFORE
11 AM WITH ANY AFTER
SCHOOL CHANGES**



CALENDAR

- 12 Spring Pictures
- 19 NO SCHOOL
- 22 Fine Arts Night

MEALTIME PRICES

Check your account at:
www.mymealtime.com

Breakfast	\$1.25
Adult Breakfast	\$1.85
Lunch	\$2.05
Adult Lunch	\$3.25
Child Visitor Lunch	\$2.45
Extra Milk/Juice	\$0.35

**If eating lunch with a
student, please RSVP by
9:00 a.m.**

Mark Your Calendars

Dates to Remember

School Spirit Days

- Friday, April 5th - Gear up for Baseball
- Friday, April 12th - Dress Your Best
- Thurs., April 18th - Grant Grizzly Gear
- Mon., April 22nd - Earth Day "Boys vs. Girls"
Boys wear **Blue**
Girls wear **Green**
- Friday, April 26th - "Look aLike" dress like twins!

Fine Arts Night

Monday, April 22, 2019

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Classroom visits and student displays! This evening will be all about your child sharing what they are doing here at Grant!

Book Fair

Monday, May 13th - Friday, May 17th

Stay tuned for more information regarding the book fair and how to sign up to volunteer!

Breakfast with Buddies

Friday, May 17th

7:40 am - 8:40 am

Come and enjoy breakfast with your student before school.



The Grant School Carnival was held on Friday, March 8th. A great evening of food, fun, games, and wonderful theme baskets highlighted the night! A HUGE thank you to the Grant PAG and parent volunteers. It is your support, participation, and volunteerism, that makes special events for our Grant Family possible. The staff at Grant Elementary want to send our most sincere thank you to all who volunteered.

April showers may bring May flowers, but it also brings a change in the weather. Please be sure to send layers with your student. The temperatures can fluctuate each spring and many times students find themselves not prepared for the outdoors.

Thank you for your help!



Proper Dress for Recess

Above 50°



Short Sleeves

40°-50°



Long Sleeves

0°-39°



Winter coats, hat, gloves, boots and snow pants

GRANT COMMUNITY RECOGNITIONS

Teacher Salute

Mrs. Feidt was selected for WSAW's



Ms. Feidt is an outstanding teacher and leader at Grant Elementary. She develops solid relationships with her students and works tirelessly to ensure their needs are met both during her time with them as well as into the future.

DID YOU KNOW?



Mrs. Sturdy was recently named the 2019 Skyward Central Wisconsin Teacher of the Year!

A Well Deserved Recognition

Reading Connection

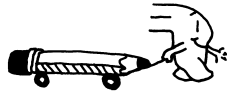
Tips for Reading Success

Beginning Edition

April 2019

Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools

Book Picks



Read-aloud favorites

■ *The Big Adventures of Tiny House*

(Susan Schaefer Bernardo)

Tiny is a little house on a big journey. He travels across the country



with his friend Big Truck, looking for a place to settle down. Along the way, he meets all kinds of houses and learns that home is anywhere, as long as you feel it in your heart.

■ *LOOK I'm a Scientist*

(DK Publishing)

Just like a scientist, your child can ask



questions and use her five senses to make discoveries. The experiments in this

book call for everyday materials and include easy-to-follow directions for creating bubbles, making slime, learning about sound, and more.

■ *Calendar Mysteries: January Joker*

(Ron Roy)

When seven-year-old Bradley Pinto's friends go missing, all the clues point to an alien abduction. But are those mysterious lights and footprints really caused by something from a UFO? Bradley will need to follow the clues to solve the mystery. Book One in the Calendar Mysteries series.

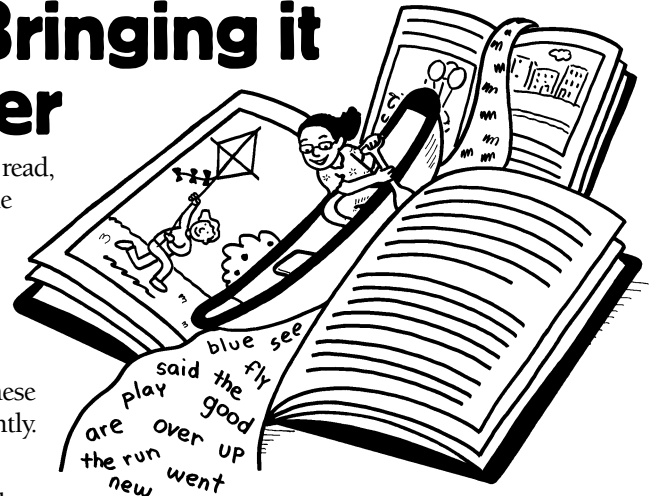
■ *Mapping Our World* (Sandy Phan)

This nonfiction book introduces your youngster to maps and globes. He'll begin by exploring map symbols and lines of longitude and latitude before moving on to fun facts about the seven continents. There's even an activity for inventing a new continent. (Also available in Spanish.)



Fluency: Bringing it all together

As your youngster learns to read, a main goal is for her to become fluent. Fluency happens when all the pieces click into place: recognizing many words instantly, reading smoothly and expressively, and understanding what she reads. Try these tips to help her read more fluently.



Build word recognition

The more words your child knows at first sight, the more fluently she'll read. Ask her teacher for a list of sight words (frequently used words), and play games with them. She could write them in a hopscotch grid to read as she hops. Or play cooperative "Scrabble." Place all the tiles faceup, and together, make a crossword of sight words.

Practice with familiar books

Fluent reading sounds like normal speech—not too fast or too slow, but just right. To practice, let your youngster read books she knows well. She won't need to stop to figure out words, so she'll

be free to read at a comfortable pace and focus on the meaning of the story. Also, ask a librarian for books with a refrain—the same phrase repeats on each page.

Use punctuation "clues"

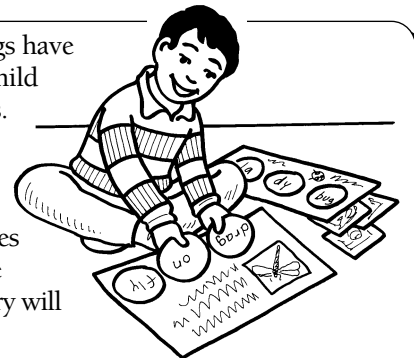
Encourage your child to think of punctuation marks as clues for reading with expression. Commas and periods tell her to pause slightly. For quotation marks, she might change her voice to show a character is speaking. Have her listen to an audiobook and follow along in the print version, noticing how the narrator uses the punctuation. Then, she can read the book to you.♥

My sylla-bug book

Dragonfly, caterpillar, bumblebee... many bugs have long names. Making this cute book lets your child spell big words by breaking them into syllables.

1. Help your youngster list bug names (*grasshopper, ladybug, centipede*).
2. Let him trace around a soup can to make circles on colored paper and cut them out. He can write each syllable on a separate circle. *Tip:* A dictionary will show him how to break a word.

3. Mix them all up. Have your child glue the circles for each word back together onto separate sheets of paper. He could draw each bug and write about it. Now staple the pages into a book for him to read again and again.♥



Writing: Start with a plan

Before your youngster writes, making a kid-friendly graphic organizer helps him plan what he'll say. And looking at his plan while he writes will remind him of facts or details to mention. Suggest these clever ideas.



Rays of sunshine. To plan a report or story, your child could draw a big sun. He can write a report topic ("Hamsters") in

the center and then a fact on each ray ("Sleeps all day," "Stuffs cheeks with food," "Runs on a wheel"). Or before he writes a story, he might put his main idea in a sun ("Visited relatives") and a major plot event on each ray ("Rode a train," "Played with cousins," "Went to a fair").

Rungs on a ladder. If your youngster needs to write instructions or explain a scientific process, have him draw a ladder with a rung for

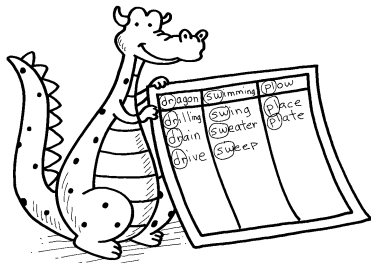
each step. "How to Pack a Suitcase" may include "Choose clothes," "Fold clothes," "Open suitcase," and "Put clothes inside." If he's describing how a seed becomes a plant, his rungs could say "Seed is planted," "Seed sprouts," "Leaves grow," and "Flowers bloom." Let him refer to his ladder to write a thorough explanation.♥



Spot the consonant combo



Here's a portable activity that will help your child learn consonant combinations like *bl* and *st*—an important part of sounding out words.



First, have her look through a book and choose words that start with two consonants (*dragon*, *twins*). Suggest that she draw columns on a sheet of paper, write one of the words at the top of each, and circle the beginning consonants.

Now let her take her paper when you go out. Together, try to spot words on signs that begin with the same combinations, and she can write them in the correct columns. Under *dragon*, she might write *drive*, *drilling*, and *drain*.

At home, help her read unfamiliar words. Then, she could count to see which combination she saw the most.♥



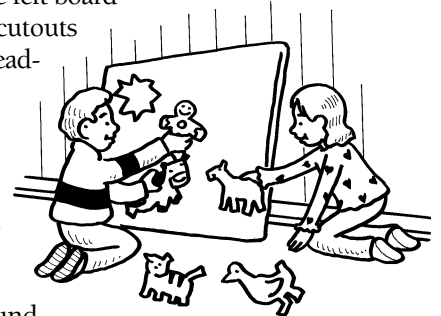
Make your own felt board

My son Antoine loves the felt board at school. The kids use felt cutouts to retell stories, which the teacher said boosts reading comprehension. So I decided to make a felt board for Antoine to play with at home.

I stapled felt to a big piece of cardboard. Then I gave my son smaller pieces of felt, and he used them to make the characters from *The Gingerbread Man*. He drew them with a marker, and I cut them out for him.

Antoine had fun moving the characters around on the board as he retold the story. I smiled when I heard him chanting, "Run, run, as fast as you can. You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

Now Antoine is eager to make more characters and retell other stories on his felt board.♥



Q&A "Swap" to find new books

Q My daughter wants new books for her shelf, but we're on a tight budget. Any suggestions?

A Luckily, you don't need to spend money for your child to get new books.

Consider starting a book swap. Invite friends, relatives, and neighbors with older and younger children to gather at your home and trade books. Your daughter's outgrown books can be passed on to a

younger reader, and she could find ones that are just right for her now.

For another type of book swap, scout your area for Little Free Libraries. These cute mini-libraries let people exchange

books for free. Check littlefreelibrary.org, and click on "Map" to find ones near you. When your daughter takes a book, it's hers to keep. Just have her leave one in its place for someone else to enjoy!♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ways to promote their children's reading, writing, and language skills.

Resources for Educators,
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