

# The Third Grade Bergstrom Buzz

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## Upcoming events:

- **Vermont author Patricia Newman visits our school on Wednesday, February 3rd.**
- **Judy Dow visits our class to teach us about Native American technology on Friday, February 5th.**



Math Websites:

Practice with \$:

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

Brain teasers:

<http://www.eduplace.com/math/brain/>

Multiplication Facts:

[http://multiplication.com/interactive\\_games.htm](http://multiplication.com/interactive_games.htm)

## Math

We are now on our 6th unit of the third grade Everyday Math program. The students did exceptionally well on the Unit 5 assessment about decimals to the tenths and hundredths place. That is tricky stuff!

Our current unit is a geometry unit. We are learning about rays, line segments, lines, parallel and intersecting lines, right angles, triangles, quadrangles and other polygons. We have been practicing making some of these figures with our arms and bodies. Have your child show you how to make parallel lines, a ray or a right angle with his or her body.

We have also been spending a lot of time practicing our math facts. Every Monday the kids do a 2 minute addition mad minute or a multiplication mad minute if he/she has accomplished a score of 35 or higher at least 3 times. Ask your child which mad minute he/she is taking. I have told the children that if they are still on addition that they should be practicing a lot at home so they can get to multiplication.

On Friday's the kids take a subtraction or division mad minute. Several kids have moved onto division because they have accomplished 60 subtraction facts in 2 minutes.



The goal is for all students to be secure with addition, subtraction and multiplication facts (35 correct in 2 minutes) by the end of the year.

If you need some additional materials to help your child practice these facts, I am more than happy to supply you with worksheets and other ideas.

## Mid-Year Assessments

I recently completed some mid-year reading and spelling assessments with the students. We used these assessments, as well as careful examination of the students' everyday work, to create new spelling groups based on each student's needs.

I have also taken a close look at the reading assessments to see what each child's reading strengths and challenges are. I have created some small reading groups that will meet once or twice a week to target such skills as fluency, accuracy, and non-fiction comprehension.

If you would like to know how your child performed and how you can help him/her to continue to succeed at home, I am more than happy to share that information with you.

The reading assessments in particular, demonstrate that this a class of great readers!