

P.L.A Weekly News
January 26, 2006

This week has been gloomy but we managed to catch a little sun. In science we learn about monstrous whales. We learn that their blubber keeps them safe from icy cold water. To find this out, Stellar Steve had us stick our hands in icy water. Most of us could feel the freezing numbness in our hands. Then we put our hands in icy water wrapped in shortening (which is like a whales blubber). Everyone thought it wasn't cold at all. There are two groups of whales. One has teeth; the other has baleens, (Baleens are filters that hang down from the top jaw) they catch small fish and others small animals which the whale then eats.

In math we are working on fractions and Anna is working on the Golden Ratio. We are having tons of fun!

We finished our *Creative Calendar*, which is going to the printer tomorrow. Now we are writing two voice poems. Pat read us a book about a guy who drew several pictures and wrote stories about them. He took the pictures to a publisher and promised to bring the stories the next day. He was never heard from again. We are writing super short stories for the pictures.

ON TUESDAY WE CUT UP A COPY OF THE "AMERICAN GOTHIC" BY GRANT WOOD, INTO 1 INCH BY 2 INCH PIECES AND THEN CUT MORE BLANK RECTANGLES TWICE AS BIG (2 INCH BY 4 CEMENTER). THEN WE DREW A PIECE OF THE AMERICAN GOTHIC ON TO THE BLANK RECTANGLES. EVERYONE HELPED! THEN WE GLUED DOWN THE PIECES ON TO A PAPER TO MAKE THE PICTURE AGAIN. THE END RESULT IS VERY COOL AND IS HANGING IN OUR CLASSROOM AS YOU READ THIS!

In geography we played "Name That Feature", a game where we name features of the earth like, an island, a sea, mountains, bays etc. We also played Spelling Baseball with words that have consonant blends. We also worked with a kit about electricity that Ethan's uncle John gave us. Marvelous Mark helped us with that.

Today we almost froze to death because the heater wasn't working, but our great science teacher figured out how to fix it so we are defrosting right now. On Friday we will walk to

Iowa, Mammal and Bird hall to see the animals and practice drawing them.

NOTICE: The weather has been gloomy but we managed to catch a little sun. In
THERE IS NO SCHOOL ON FEBRUARY 17 AND 20. After lunch

**Brought to you by: Serious Sam, Courageous Clare with a little help
from Anna with Angst.** From Anna with Angst. In starting which is