

Rise Up & Write!

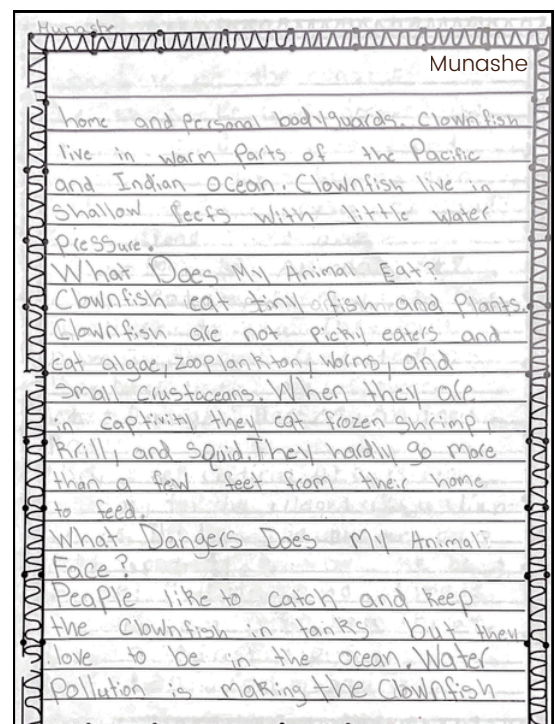
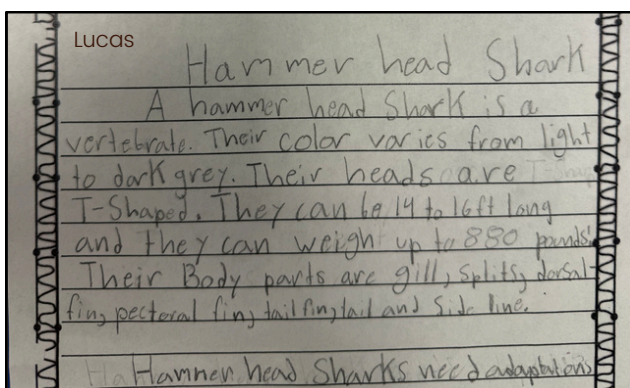
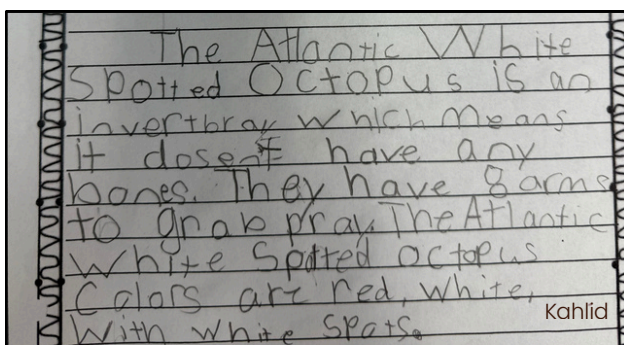
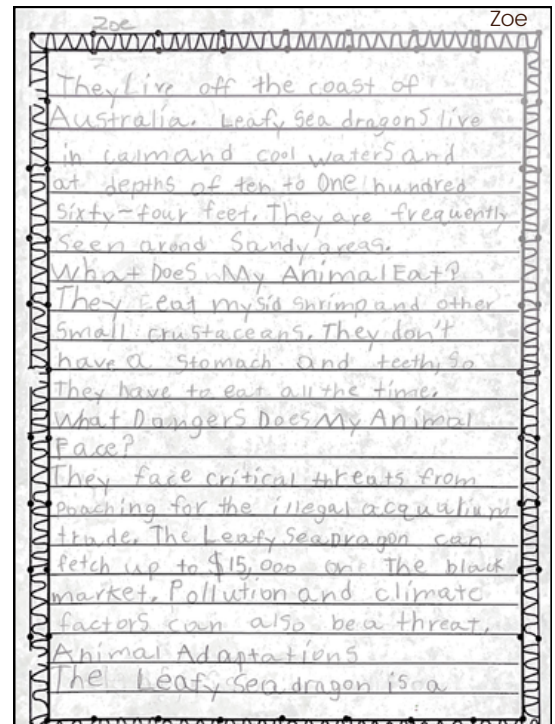
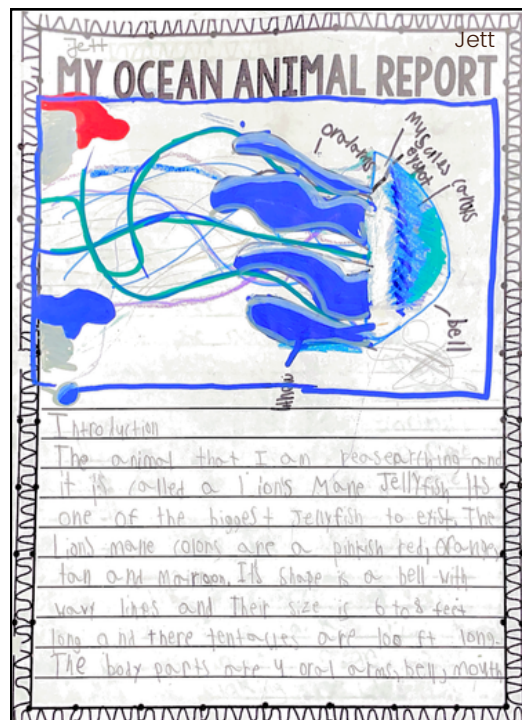


WELCOME!

AJLA "Rise Up & Write" is a space for our elementary students to celebrate the writing that they have been working on at school. From building foundational literacy skills to practicing creative writing- AJLA students cover it all! Please enjoy our class writing features, each displaying developmentally appropriate technique through drawing, letter formation, and spelling. Nurturing the progress of skills is our goal- not perfection!

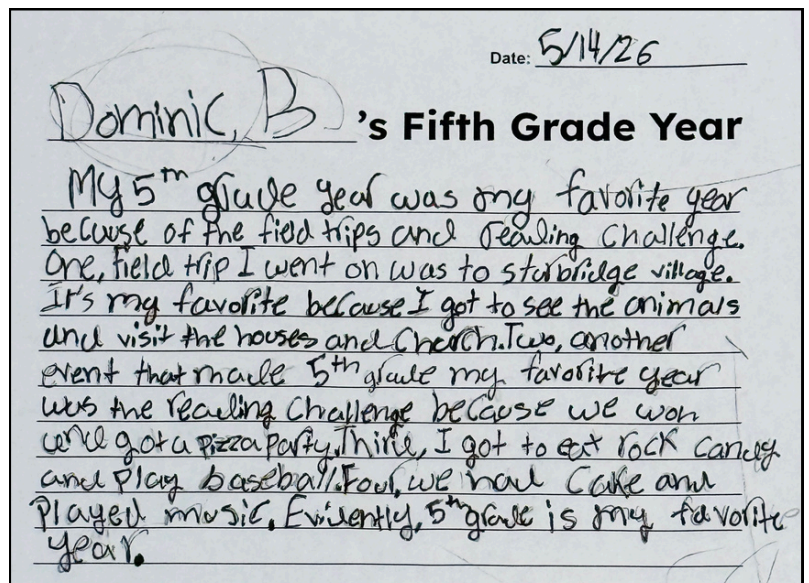
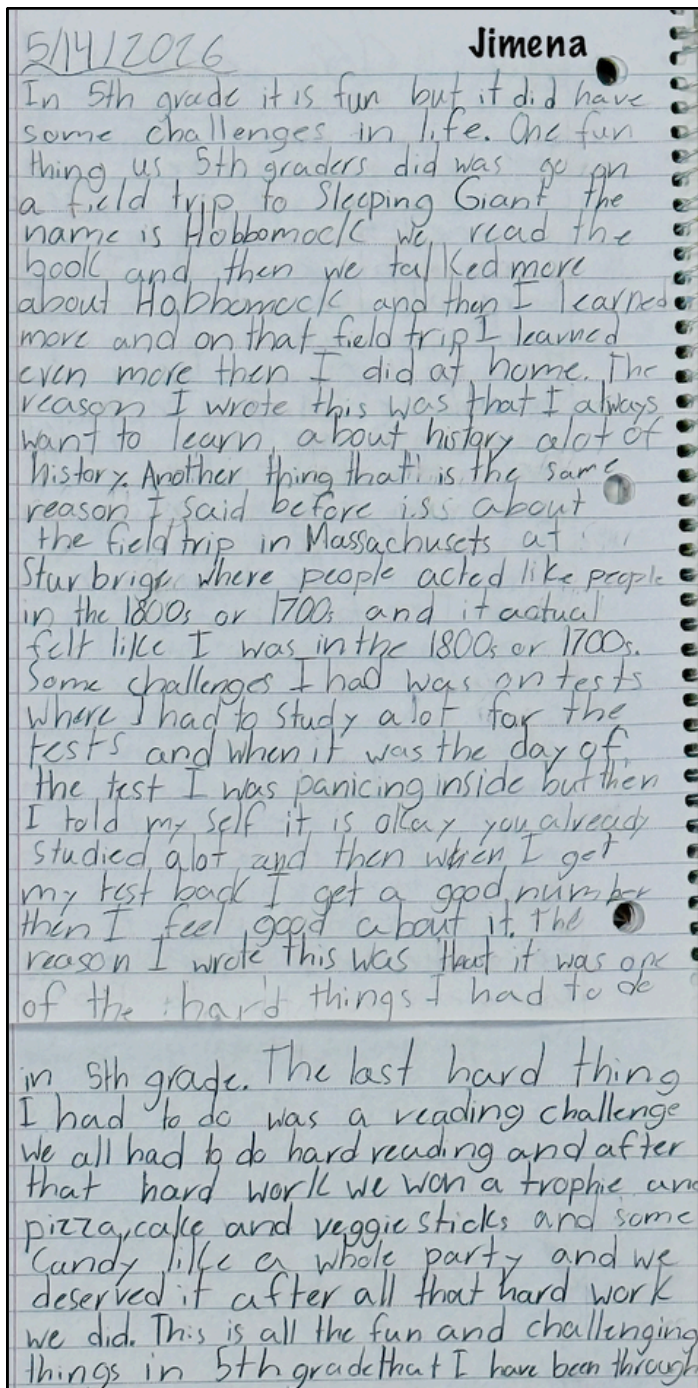
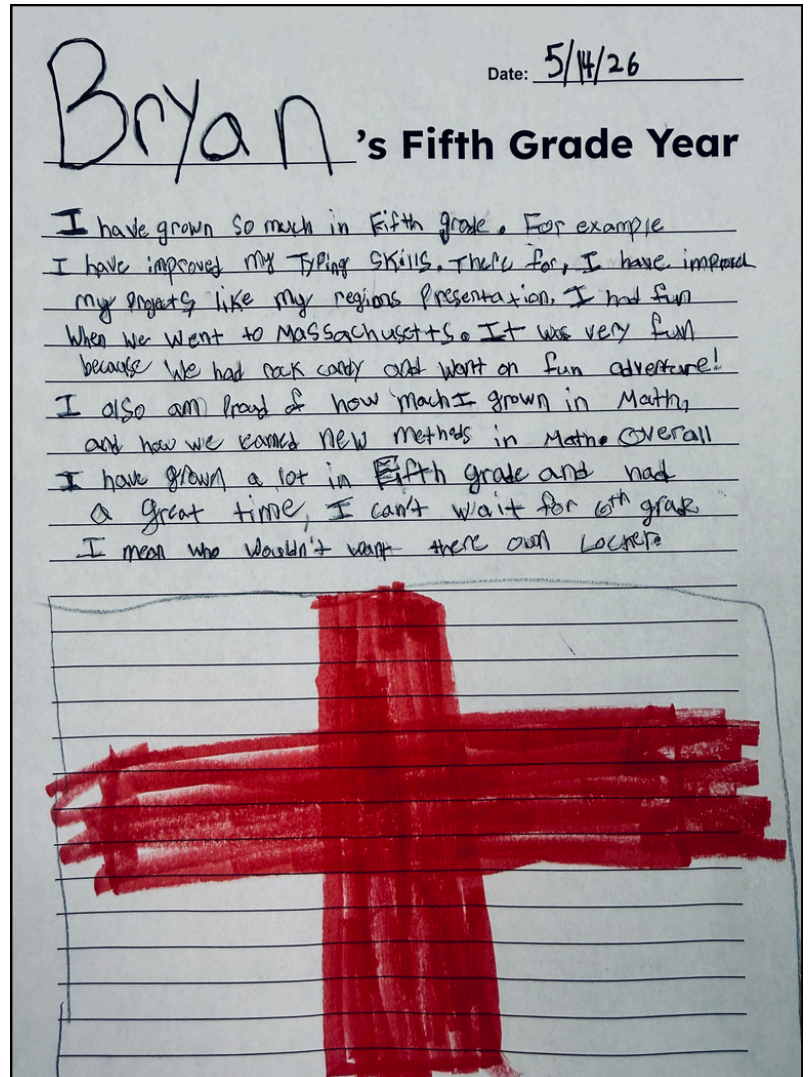
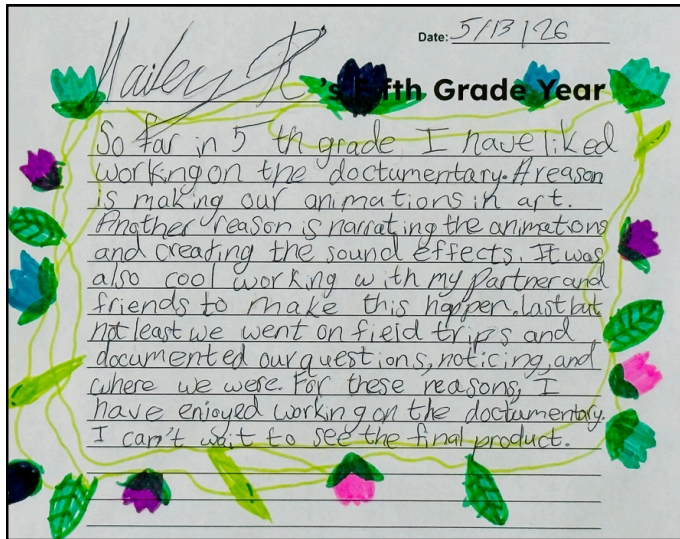
Second Grade

In Second Grade, students are using all the writing skills they have learned thus far to create a final research essay. Each essay is specific to the ocean animal they have been studying.



Fifth Grade

To reflect on their end of their time in elementary school, the Fifth Graders wrote end-of-year paragraphs sharing their highlights and challenges over the year. They are excited to start middle school in the fall!



Third Grade

After reading the story, "Year of the Panda," students chose a character trait to describe our main character, Lu Yi. Then, they found evidence in the book to support their ideas. They even learned how to put real quotes into their writing!

Lu Yi and Su Lin
by Enaeli Lopez

In the book The Year of the Panda by Miriam Schlein Lu Yi was protective. First when they raised the panda Lu Yi said "Put him down, you're scaring him" (page 2).

This shows that Lu Yi is protective by caring about the panda. He doesn't want it to get scared. Next, Lu Yi wanted the panda to be safe so he took him inside so the panda could sleep with him. Finally, Lu Yi care about the panda and that's why the government said would give to Lu Yi for taking care of the panda. *in the text it says "He wasn't even thinking about the reward all he could think of was Su Lin and the day he found him with his dad in the forest."

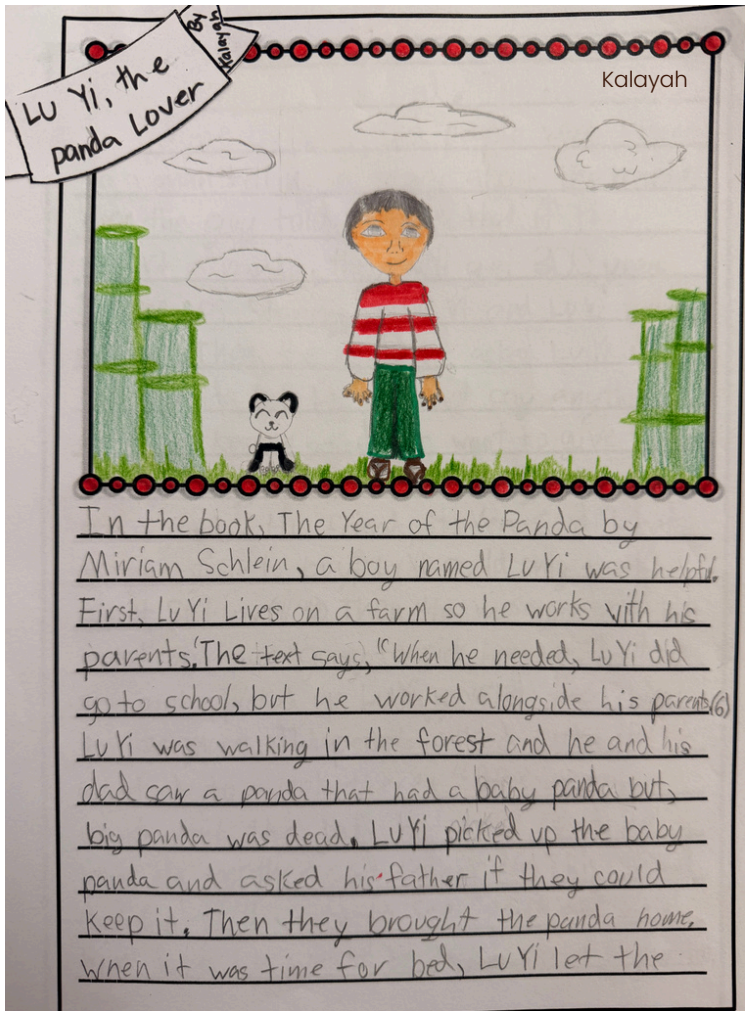
(Page 40) All in all, Lu Yi was being protective and kind to his panda and family.

Lu Yi The Selfless Boy
By Kate Rozas

In the book The Year of the Panda by Miriam Schlein, Lu Yi was selfless. Even though Lu Yi to study, Lu Yi would help his mother and father on the farm. The text says "When he was needed Lu Yi did not go to school but worked along side his parents" (Page 6). When Lu Yi saw a baby panda abandoned and hungry in the forest, Lu Yi with his dad fed the baby panda some goat milk. In the text it says "With a series of little squeezes he fed the infant daxiong ma till it seemed to have enough."

Later on there was a bagemen from the government asking if anyone had a panda in exchange for 300 yuan. "Lu Yi wasn't even thinking about the reward, all he could think about was su-Lin." When Lu Yi's father said "we have a baby panda" Lu Yi got scared and thought he would never see su-Lin again. All in all after everything Lu Yi had been through, Lu Yi was still selfless.

Third Grade Continued



panda sleep in his bed. The next day, Lu Yi came outside and people were listening to a man telling a story about the mountains. Then the guy told everyone that if they report a panda, they will get 300 yuan. Everyone was staring at Lu Yi and Lu Yi was nervous. Then, the messenger asked Lu Yi if he had a panda but, Lu Yi did not say anything at first because he didn't want to give Su Lin up. Eventually, Lu Yi told the messenger that he had a panda. His friend, Ho Yen said "What are we going to buy?" Lu Yi could only think about Su Lin. (41/42) Then the messenger told him a helicopter was going to pick him up. Later, the copter picked up Lu Yi up and then went to the place. The people asked Lu Yi if he wanted to work there. "Of course he would want the job but how could he leave his mother and father?" This shows that he still wants to see Su Lin and help him, but he wants to take care of his parents too.

In the end, Lu Yi cared for his parents and Su Lin and got a professional farmer for his parents.

Fourth Grade

To wrap up our reading of the novel "Love That Dog," Fourth Grade students reflected on how the main character, Jack, changed his attitude toward poetry and writing from the beginning of the story to the end. Through Jack's journey, students explored the importance of having a growth mindset, believing in yourself, and building meaningful relationships with supportive adults in your life.

Name Theodorin Date 4/7/26

Love That Dog

Jack learns many things about poetry throughout his school year. In January, Jack discovers that a formal poem, a piece of writing with rhythm and shorter lines, looks like a poem. So any book can be poem-ed. In November, he also understood that poems can connect to our lives and he prefers smaller poems, because you can read many poems in a short amount of time. Next is March, where Jack learns it's okay to put your name on your work and other kids like his poems. Finally, we have February. He figured out that poems can be shapes, often called concrete poems, and to make text to self, text to text, and text to world connections. Overall, Jack learns as a writer throughout the book, helping him grow into a stronger poet.

Name Amelia Date 5/1/26

Love That Dog

Jack learns many things in his school year about himself as a writer. Jack at the start thinks "poetry is only for girls" but he is really good at it but sadly he doesn't know. Jack learned poetry could be in different styles and he loves Mr. Myer's, a poetry writer, voice and laugh. Jack also discovered how to type, spell check, and also realized that computers can be helpful. In the month of June Jack learned that he is a good poet or a better one than he thought he was. Overall, Jack's feelings about poetry got better and better and that helped him grow into a great poet.

Name Analisa Date 5/1/2026

Love That Dog

Jack's journey help him be a better writer. Jack learned how to share feelings in poems to connect to real life events that happened with animals. He also learned it's okay to copy some words from authors or use them as inspiration. Jack learned that it is okay to not understand all parts of a poem, because sometimes they just sound good. Jack realized that he likes writing poems and he's better at it than he thought. Overall, Jack's journey with writing helped him change his attitude about poetry, and he grew as a writer.

Name Brittany Date 5/1/26

Love That Dog

Jack learned many things about himself as a writer. Jack learned that poems can have short lines, long lines, and different shapes. Also, he learned it's okay to not understand poems, and that it's hard to understand Jack Frost's poems. Additionally, he discovered that he likes short poems, especially typed up poems but it has to have, exactly, the same spacing. At last, Jack figured out it's okay to be inspired by others and, it is okay to use others' words. Overall, Jack changes a lot over the 10 months, and learned it's okay for boys to write poems.

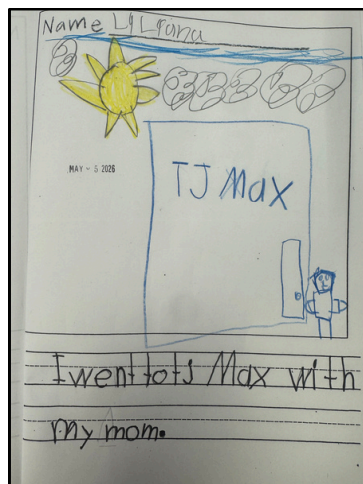
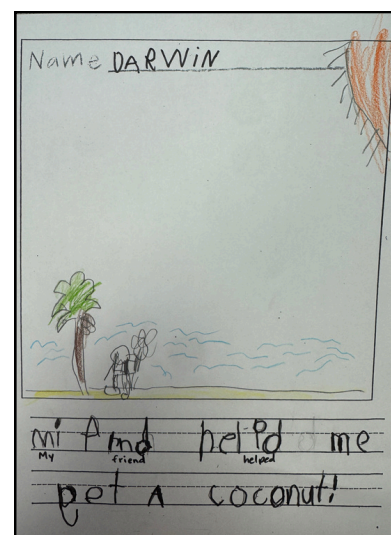
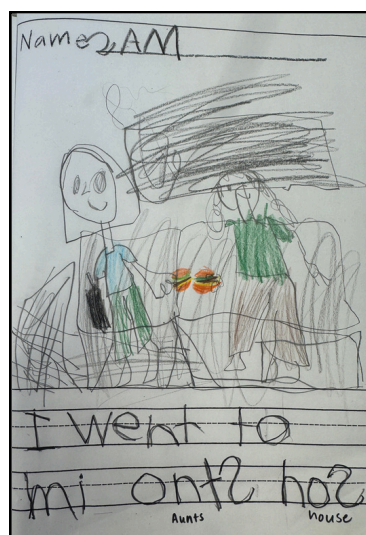
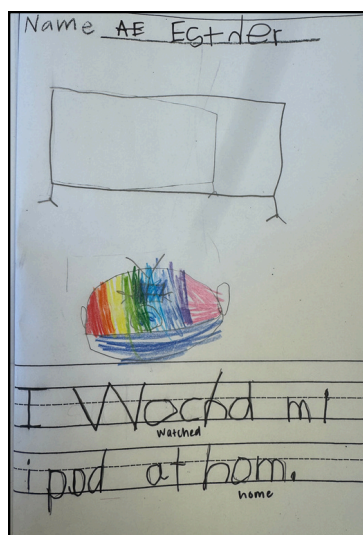
Name Aaran Date 5/1/26

Love That Dog

Jack's journey throughout the book changed his mindset about poetry. First, Jack discovered that it's okay to put your name or anonymous on your work. Then Jack realized that it's fine to get inspired by poets, because that's what poets want. Jack also figured out that sometimes you won't understand a poem, and that's fine. Jack found out that poems can be short, long, and different shaped. This is how Jack got inspired to be a poet.

Kindergarten

This month, Kindergarten is sharing pieces from their writing journals. When planning our writing, we think about something that happened in real life we would like to share.



First Grade

After a year of learning about community, First Graders are officially experts! Students learned that experts can share their knowledge through "How To" writing. They drafted thoughtful directions for "How to Build a Community" focusing on transition words. They edited their drafts, wrote final copies, crafted illustrations, and finished the books off with covers!

