

Mrs. Smith's Smidgens

Issue #18

January 16, 2026

Report Cards

Your student's
1st Semester report card
will be sent home
Tues., Jan. 20th.

Please sign and return
the large white envelope
the report card will go
home in ASAP.

You KEEP the report card
and all the paperwork
that is inside the large
white envelope.
Please contact me if you
have questions or
concerns.

January Character Trait

Curiosity

Learning by exploring and discovering

Sharing Schoolwork

Parents, please share your student's
schoolwork with them. Your student's take-
home folder is sent home with their
schoolwork from the week each Thursday.
For example, show your student their Math
worksheets so they see the numbers they
made incorrectly. This also lets you know
what to practice at home!

Curriculum

Math: We completed Chapter 7
Numbers to 20 this week. Next
week we begin Chapter 9
Number Bonds. Please see the
attached "Home Connections"
Parent Letter explaining the
concept of number bonds.

Core Knowledge: Magnet
games were a success! Next up,
the Wright Brothers, America's
aviation pioneers.

Spalding: Students were taught
"ng" and "ea." Next week I will
introduce "aw, drop your jaw"
and "au, not used."

Language Arts: Rhyming
words, phonemic awareness,
listening and watching for
words with 2-letter
phonograms, handwriting,
learning future Spelling
words, listening
comprehension skills and
reviewing for our 2nd
phonogram and spelling test

Read Aloud Books: White
Wonderful Winter by Elaine
Good, Magnets: Pulling
Together, Pushing Apart by
Natalie Rosinsky and The
Shivers in the Fridge by Fran
Manushkin

Important Dates

Mon., Jan. 19

NO SCHOOL
Martin Luther King,
Jr. Day

Tues., Jan. 20

1st Semester Report
Cards Go Home

Thurs., Feb. 12

Class Valentine
Parties ♥♥♥
(Last hour of the
school day)

Mon., Feb. 16

NO SCHOOL
Presidents' Day

Fri., March 6

Parent/Teacher
Conferences
(by appt. only)

Fri., March 20

In-School Field Trip
Cheyenne Mountain
Zoo Mobile
(8:15 am-12:15 pm)

**Mon., March 23 - Fri.,
March 27**

NO SCHOOL
Spring Break

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Taught

2-Letter

Phonograms

sh, ee, th, ow, ou, oo,
ch, ar, ay, ai, oy, oi,
er, ir, ur, wor, ear,
ng, and ea

Sound in a Sack

Jan. 17-19

"p"

Remember, all students are to write their own clues. I saw some very nice handwriting on this week's clues!

Phonogram and Spelling Test

Our first phonogram and spelling test on Thursday went well! Some students were a little nervous, but when they discovered how easy it was, most rose to the occasion.

Our second phonogram and spelling test will be Thurs., Jan. 22nd. The test will include 5 phonograms (two 1-letter and three 2-letter) and 5 spelling words from our "Spalding Notebook."

We will have focused practice on the phonograms and spelling words during the week of the test. Wednesday your student's "practice test" (which they are to check for errors and does not come home graded by me) will go home in their backpack. Proper TCA handwriting, including correct strokes and letter formation, will be expected.

Any handwriting errors will be marked.

The test on Thurs., Jan. 22nd will include:

a	d	ow	ou	oo
a	it	she	is	on

The "Big Six"

Research has shown that there are six key components that contribute to successful beginning reading. Because of the importance of these components, they have become known as the "Big Six."

The "Big Six" skills are:

1. Oral Language
2. Phonological Awareness
3. Phonics
4. Vocabulary
5. Fluency
6. Comprehension

Something to Ponder

*"Most of life's problems
can be solved
with a good cookie."*

Ina Garten

American author, TV cook, and culinary icon

Mrs. Smith's Contact Information

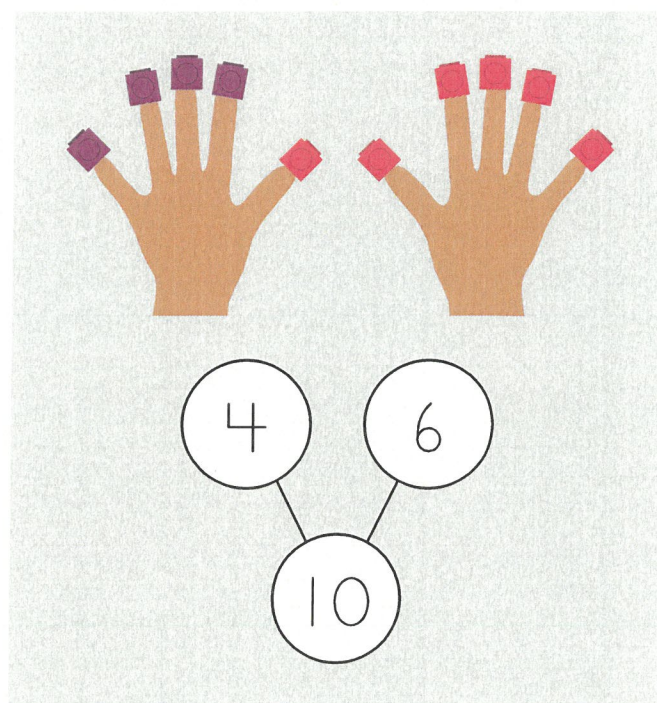
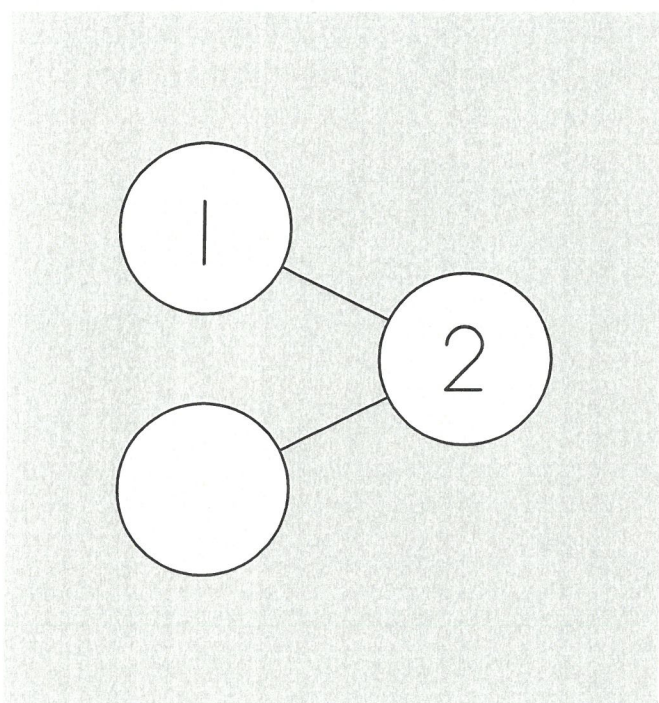
Email: bsmith@asd20.org

Phone: 719.265.9766

Text: 719.362.0162

Home Connection

In this chapter, your child will begin to use a number bond to represent a number and the parts that make it. A number bond can be drawn on paper with two or more parts that are connected to a whole. It can take on many forms, but is most often represented in Kindergarten as a set of three circles as seen below. A full page copy of a number bond is on the back for use at home. Slip it into a glossy sheet protector and your child can write on it with a dry erase marker.



Your child will begin by representing a number and its parts on a number bond using counters or other objects and then progress to using numbers. The order of the parts in a number bond does not matter as 3 and 2 make 5 can also be represented as 2 and 3 make 5. In this chapter, addition will be explained using, “_____ and _____ make _____.” The symbols + and = will be introduced in the following chapter.

By the end of the Kindergarten year, your child should know number bonds to 10 with automaticity. Meaning, that when given two parts, your child will know the whole without counting. Developing automaticity requires practice both in school and at home.

Math at Home

- Provide up to 10 objects (cereal, beans, buttons, etc.) and a number bond or divided plate with three sections for your child. Have your child start by putting all 10 of the objects into the whole of the number bond. Ask your child split the objects from the whole into the parts to find all of the combinations that make 10.
- To help develop automaticity with bonds to 10, play “Complete the Bond.” If playing bonds to 10, you show one part with your fingers and your child shows the other part with her fingers. For example, if making bonds to 10, you might hold up 4 fingers and your child will hold up 6 because 4 and 6 make 10.
- To continue working on understanding and recognizing the teen numbers, have your child build them using a number bond. Place 10 objects or the number 10 in one part and then up to 9 objects or up to the number 9 in the other part. Have your child write the teen number in the whole.

Number Bond

