



January was a short month that found us easing back into our school-day routine. I tested out having the kids sign-in with pencil on paper. They were great sports and humored me. My goal is to work with them on recognizing and properly writing the first letter of their name. We will do this with pencils, crayons and markers on paper and also by tracing that letter into sand or salt or using chalk and chalkboards. We've gotten lots of practice counting as we review our question of the day and identify which number of the two is greater. Our January color was blue and we introduced the rectangle and circle during our daily work.

Welcome February! This month we'll focus on the colors pink and purple and our shape is, of course, the heart. We will have fun with songs learning our positional words LEFT & RIGHT. We will also create a special parent valentine and address our letter during our post office day. Towards the end of the month, we will head into our busy Texas/Rodeo days. Look for more information on Western Day to appear on my bulletin board as we get closer to the 28<sup>th</sup>. There are several times during our 3-day week when the kids have the opportunity to practice cutting with scissors. This is an important pre-writing skill as it helps build the muscles needed for proper pencil grip. They love cutting notecards, drinking straws as well as paper. And thank you so much to those of you who have shared your books with us. The kids have come to look forward to hearing a book read during their snack and lunch times.

**Important February dates:**

Thurs., February 1 - No school (teacher training)

Wed., Feb 14 - Valentine's party in the classroom (12:00-12:30 Set-up / 12:30-1:30 Party)

Looking forward to a fun month!

Mrs. Block