What’s Happening in English Language Arts Class?
Your child’s class will use Wit & Wisdom as our English Language Arts curriculum. Your student will read and respond to excellent fiction and nonfiction writing. They will learn about key history, science, and literature topics.

POWERFUL FORCES.
We will find out what wind can do and how wind makes people feel. We will explore how people respond to the power of the wind.

OUR CLASS WILL
READ THESE BOOKS:

Nonfiction Picture Books
- *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer
- *Feel the Wind* by Arthur Dorros
- *Feelings* by Aliki

Fiction Picture Books
- *Brave Irene* by William Steig
- *Owl at Home* by Arnold Lobel. See the chapter “The Guest.”
- *Gilberto and the Wind* by Marie Hall Ets

Poem
- “The Wind” by James Reeves
- “It Fell in the City” by Eve Merriam
- “This Windmill” by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater

OUR CLASS WILL
LOOK AT THESE PAINTINGS:

- *The Red Mill* by Piet Mondrian (1911)
- *Oostzijdse Mill With Extended Blue, Yellow and Purple Sky* by Piet Mondrian (1907)
- *Windmill in the Gein* by Piet Mondrian (1906–7)

OUR CLASS WILL
WATCH THIS VIDEO:

- “William and the Windmill” Toronto Star

OUR CLASS WILL READ THESE ARTICLES:

• “Wind at Work”
• “What Makes the Wind?”

OUR CLASS WILL READ THIS PART OF A SHORT STORY:

• “Owl and the Moon,” Arnold Lobel

OUR CLASS WILL ASK THESE QUESTIONS:

• How is wind a powerful force?
• What are feelings?
• How do characters respond to the powerful force of the wind?
• How does Irene respond to the powerful force of the wind?
• How does William use the powerful force of the wind?

VOCABULARY

For their tests, your child should know the meaning of each word and how to use it in a sentence:

- soar
- feelings
- generous
- selfish
- float
- shiver
- scorched
- magic
YOUR CHILD WILL WORK ON THIS LEARNING GOAL:
Create a story about the wind that includes words about feelings and show order of events.
Your child will use a story map to plan their story.

The story will include:
- **Characters** (who is the story about)
- **Setting** (when and where the story takes place)
- **Problem** (the main character’s challenge)
- **Event** (what happens)
- **Resolution** (end of the problem)

AT HOME ACTIVITIES

PHONICS:
Your child is learning phonics skills, so they will become a strong reader. This activity will help them practice the phonics skills from their class.

Matching Game

- **Step 1**: Choose four short words, such as small, skin, bring, and snap.
- **Step 2**: Draw two columns. Label one column “Word Beginnings” and the other “Word Endings”.
- **Step 3**: Have your child match the beginning and ending of each word.
- **Step 4**: Challenge! Use harder words. You can use the words that your child needs to know for their tests. See first page.

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Check out mClass Home Connect for more great activities linked to your child’s learning!
LET’S TALK: Here is a way to talk with your child about what they are learning.

Ask your child:
• Where do you think the animals go when it’s windy?
• Can you tell me what a blizzard is? Do you think we will have a blizzard this winter?
• Are you looking forward to the summer? How do you feel when a summer breeze blows past you?

WRITING: Your child is learning to write. They will write to express themselves and show what they have learned. Please try this writing activity at home.

My Perfect Snow Day

Step 1: Ask your child to imagine their perfect snow day.
Step 2: Have your child write a full story of what their day looks like from beginning to end.

For example, they can write sentences to answer these questions:
• What do you do when you wake up and see snow outside?
• What do you do once you wake up? What do you do next?
• Where do you go on your perfect snow day?
• How do you feel about your perfect snow day?
• Who do you see on your perfect snow day?

REMINDERS

• Ask your child’s teacher:
  • For copies of their end of module tasks.
  • For their Amplify mClass Home Connect Letter.
  • What reading skills your child is working on.
• Watch for your child’s report card and schedule your parent/teacher conference.
• Check the City Schools calendar often for important dates/reminders.

RESOURCES

Want to read some books with your child at home? These books will help them learn more about wind, weather, and feelings.

• The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum
• Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day by Judith Viorst
• Time of Wonder by Robert McCloskey
• Katy and the Big Snow by Virginia Lee Burton
• A Small Tall Tale From the Far Far North by Peter Sis
• Hurricanes! by Gail Gibbons
• Tornadoes! by Gail Gibbons
• The Wind Blew by Pat Hutchins

TIP: Find these books for free at your local Enoch Pratt Free Library!

Free Places to Learn and Explore Art on Wind and Windmills
• Walters Art Museum: Visit here for more information
• Baltimore Museum of Art: Visit here for more information