



# Snowden Farm Elementary

## What's the Scoop?

### "Monthly News"

March 2025



#### Dates to Remember:

**March 3 - March 7, 2025**

Read Across America Week

**3/3:** Reading is ACTIVE!

**3/4 :** WILD About Reading - Animal Print

**3/5:** Hat Day

**3/6:** Superhero Day

**3/7:** Stallion Colors Day

**March 11, 2025**

Heritage Night 6:00- 7:30

**March 18, 2025**

Wellness Night 5:00-6:45

**March 28, 2025**

Fun Run TBD

#### March Birthdays:

##### **Swope**

Ebai 2

Kian 14

##### **Kerr**

Jaxon I 16

Noah A. 17

##### **Pineau**

Sophia 7

##### **Warwick**

Irya 22

#### Up Next:

**Math:** In Module 6, students build upon their mastery of renaming place value units and extend their work with conceptual foundation for multiplication and division and for the idea that numbers other than 1, 10, and 100 can serve as units. Throughout the module, students continue to focus on strengthening and deepening conceptual understanding and fluency.

**Knowledge:** In the beginning of March, we will be working through **Knowledge 9: The Civil War**. This domain will introduce students to an important period in the history of the United States. Students will learn about the controversy over slavery between the North and the South, which eventually led to the U.S. Civil War. They will learn about this war and how the end of the war also meant the end of slavery. "Enslaved Africans" is the term used to describe Africans and the descendants of those Africans taken from Africa against their will and forced into slavery in the United States through the conclusion of the Civil War. The communities of people enslaved in the South established a new culture that combined the homeland of their ancestors and the Americas. Although slave trade was abolished in the United States in January 1808, and at the time of the Civil War very few enslaved Africans had actually been born in Africa, the term "enslaved Africans" is used in place of "slaves" to honor the history of the enslaved people. Students will also learn about some women and men who were significant during this time, including Harriet Tubman, Abraham Lincoln, Clara Barton, Robert E. Lee, and Ulysses S. Grant.

We will also start **Knowledge 10: The Human Body** toward the end of March. This domain covers a number of topics regarding the human body. This domain first covers concepts regarding cells and how cells form the building blocks of life on Earth.

Students are then taught how collections of cells form tissues, and tissues form organs, and finally how organs work within the various body systems. In addition, students are taught about Anton van Leeuwenhoek and his work with the microscope and his discovery of the tiny one-celled bacteria. Students will then hear about the digestive and excretory systems. They will learn the fundamental parts and functions of these two body systems. The narrator of these Read-Alouds is a nutritionist named Nick Nutri, who reinforces basic facts that students will be learning. The remainder of this domain focuses on the importance of good nutrition and how to make good choices in order to eat a well-balanced diet. Students will be taught five keys to good health—eat well, exercise, sleep, keep clean, and have regular checkups.

**Skills:** We are going to continue to work on Unit 5 during this month. This unit is devoted to introducing spelling alternatives for vowel sounds. Vowel sounds and their spellings are the most challenging part of the English writing system. There are only two vowel sounds that are almost always spelled just one way (/a/ and /ar/). The other sixteen vowel sounds have at least one significant spelling alternative. Several of them have many spelling alternatives. The sounds and spellings taught in this unit are:

- /u/ spelled 'u' (but), 'o' (son), 'ou' (touch), 'o\_e' (come)
- /ə/ (also called the schwa sound) spelled 'a' (about), 'e' (debate)

In addition to the above sounds and spellings, two sound combinations and their spellings are also taught in this unit. They are:

- /ə/ + /l/ spelled 'al' (animal), 'il' (pencil), 'el' (travel), 'le' (apple)
- /sh/ + /ə/ + /n/ spelled 'tion' (action)

The following **tricky spellings** are taught in this unit:

- 'a' can be pronounced /a/ (hat), /ae/ (paper), /ə/ (about), or /aw/ (wall)
- 'e' can be pronounced /e/ (pet), /ee/ (me), or /ə/ (debate)
- 'o' can be pronounced /o/ (hop), /oe/ (open), or /u/ (son)
- 'o\_e' can be pronounced /oe/ (home) or /u/ (come)
- 'ou' can be pronounced /ou/ (shout) or /u/ (touch)

**Science:** In this marking period, students explore the phenomena of plant growth, seed dispersal, and pollination. Students begin by setting up an investigation to determine what plants need to grow and survive (sunlight and water). In the next four lessons, students investigate the role of pollinators, the interdependence of plants and animals, and students research the importance of bees in the pollination process and why it is vital to save them. In the final lessons, students will program Finch robots to model pollinators and pollination.

**Health:**

Students will be able to explain the roles and responsibilities within a family and how that changes with age. They will be able to discuss the differences between being a baby and now. They will also make predictions about what they will be able to do in the next year.

**Classroom Announcements:**

-Please make sure your child has warm clothing/coats for recess.

-Folders will be sent home on Thursdays and be returned the next day. Most papers will be sent home on Thursdays. Please be sure to check your child's folder and discuss with them their progress.

-Please make sure to send in a note or email when there is any change in dismissal.

**Classroom donations:** We will welcome indoor recess games, Clorox wipes, snacks and tissues. Thank you in advance for your support!