



The Emerging Scholars Initiative (ESI) program has gotten off to a great start. The kindergarten students have had several lessons:

- *School for Bears* which focused on sorting skills
- *The Cats Quizzer* which focused on fat and skinny questions
- *Q is for Duck* which focused on creating riddles.
- and *Birthday Presents* which focused on mind mapping skills.

The kindergarten teachers taught a fabulous lesson about “The Frame of a Gardner”. The teachers read “Vegetable Soup” and the students sorted pictures by gardening vocabulary, products, skills and written words. The students and teachers did a fantastic job with the lesson.

The kindergarten students and first graders will start a new science series called “Water Works”. The students will learn the importance of science investigation, hands on experiments, and critical thinking. The students will learn that science is not a linear process. This unit focuses on the main components of Compass 2015 where the major focus is on rigor –challenging work, relevance- and relationships-bonds with students.

# Emerging Scholars



The first grade students have received several lessons as well;

- *Alien Animals* which focused on sorting animals.
- *Z was Zapped* focused on deductive logic and pattern skills
- *Archibald Frisby* focused on students questioning skills
- *Shape Space* focused on comparing and contrasting shapes.

# Initiative

During the upcoming week, the first grade teachers will teach a lesson on famous Americans using some of the critical thinking strategies that we have modeled from the Office of Gifted Education. On the back of this newsletter is a gentle reminder about the SAPLINGS field trip that will be held November 21, 2009. I have already contacted the 25 parents/students that signed up by the deadline. I will call to confirm before the end of this week. A parent/guardian must accompany each student that attends the field trip to the Chrysler Museum. I look forward to meeting and partnering with everyone.



# Gentle Reminders:

## First Grade Parent Meeting:

**What:** 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Parent Meeting

**When:** January 15, 2010

**Who:** First Grade Parents

**Where:** Special Programs

**Why:** Gifted Identification Process

**Time:** 11:00 am-12:00pm