Students did a big writing project about the adventures of our two guinea pigs, Cavy and Collie. We then sent our work in to be published into a bound book. This is something we will have always.
1. Our class talked about what our guinea pigs might do when no one is at school.
2. We read the book, Godzilla Ate My Homework, by Marcia Thornton Jones.
3. Students brainstormed ideas about what the guinea pigs might do when no one is at school.
4. Students wrote rough drafts about their guinea pigs ideas.
5. Students drew pictures to go with their stories.
7. We had an open-house for parents to come and meet our guinea pigs and to see our work before we sent it off.
8. Students wrote in their best handwriting, final copy to submit for publication.
9. All stories were sent in to be published. We used the Student Treasures Publishing company.

Standards Used:

W.3.3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.
- Establish a situation and introduce a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.
- Use dialogue and descriptions of actions, thoughts, and feelings to develop experiences and events or show the response of characters to situations.
- Use temporal words and phrases to signal event order.
- Provide a sense of closure.
  - W.3.4. With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
  - W.3.5. With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.
  - W.3.6. With guidance and support from adults, use technology to produce and publish writing (using keyboarding skills) as well as to interact and collaborate with others.
Once upon a time there were two guinea pigs. They were both friends and they lived in a cage in the library. One day, they decided to go down to the library and knock on the bookshelf. They found a book and went back to the classroom. The guinea pigs decided to go out of the cage and get into the hall. The library was empty, so they decided to eat. They went back into the cage and started eating the book. They finally went back to the classroom and decided to take the guinea pig's necklace and ride the guinea pigs' bicycle.
It’s Friday, let’s go out to have fun. You guys can try swimming or play soccer. But don’t forget to wash your hands before you eat. We will go to the park and play together. There is a big tree with a swing. We can climb it and throw the ball to the teacher. Let’s play this game and have fun! I’m happy and you are happy too! After lunch, let’s go to the library. We can read books and make new friends. The teacher is always there to help us. Don’t forget to thank the teacher for everything! It’s a great day!