



Fifth Grade News

Take a peek and see what's going on in 5th grade.

Reading

In the beginning of April we are completing our Test Prep unit, which prepares students for the types of texts and questions they may encounter on tests. This is simply developing their reading skills to be more aware and alert, noticing how and why authors use specific words and examples, and making connections between characters, settings, and big ideas. In this unit, students will also be analyzing and learning from informational texts.

Following this unit we will begin our next unit that places a focus on a specific time in history. For this unit we will be focusing on Westward Expansion. Students will have the time to research many topics surrounding this time including the gold rush, the transcontinental railroad, the adventures of Lewis and Clark, and the idea of Manifest Destiny. Students will have to opportunity to use this research during the coming writing unit.

Writing

In Writers Workshop students will be writing research based information reports within the discipline of history. The specific topic is Westward Expansion. Students will begin the process by collecting notes and sorting different subtopics that are related to Westward Expansion. They will be writing flash drafts as well as revising their writing using checklists and rubrics. Students will not only be learning to write research essays, but they will learn to think as historians and apply their knowledge and ideas into writing

Science

In science, fifth grade is learning about rocks and landforms. We will investigate how the earth changes, how dynamic processes shape the earth, and how people are affected by the earth and its changes.

Mrs. Dey is starting a Garden Club! She will be working on Friday afternoons with students to plant and work in the garden to nurture new life this spring. If your child is interested in being part of the Garden Club, see Mrs. Dey. Letters have been sent home with more information.

Social Studies

In social studies during the month of April and May, students will be completing their case study on the United States. In May, we will launch a case study on Mexico. Our essential question will be "How do key forces and events shape a nation?" Throughout this unit, we will learn about the Mexican American War, Mexican Revolution, and Mexico's key cultural characteristics, such as traditions, language, arts, architecture, literature, music, dance.

Mathematics

The children have been continuing to work on fractions. We have been learning about how to apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to multiply and divide fractions. Some classes have started to learn about line plots and how to they can help us organize information and problem solve. Some students are still struggling with their multiplication facts so please see that they practice and study their facts as the New York State Test begins May 1, and runs until May 2nd.

Important Dates

May 1st, 2018: First date of the NYS math exam.

May 2nd, 2018: Second day of the NYS math exam.

May 31st, 2018: 5th grade end of the year trip to Dave & Busters in Time Square.