

Curriculum Corner Grade 6~ January 2020

Math:

Please refer to the attached handout regarding information on our mathematics program.

Science:

What we are Doing Now/What we will do next:

In science we are starting on properties of matter. In this unit the students will be using many methods to understand some pretty abstract concepts. One thing they will be doing is creating models. The first standard they will be learning is MS-PS-1-1 Matter and Its Properties

Develop models to describe the atomic composition of simple molecules and extended structures. So, we use pipe cleaners, beads, and anything we can to help the students understand.

Next, we will see what happens when these materials interact.

What you can do: Take your student to the drugstore and look at all the elements that are also vitamins.

Social Studies:

What we are Doing Now/What we will do next:

We are learning about Mesopotamia, the Cradle of Civilization. The students will play a simulation game of hunters and gatherers vs. farmers to see how differently the groups fare. They will also piece together a legend, making sense of fragments of text and putting it into chronological order.

What you can do: Ask your student what civilizations consist of.

Language Arts:

What We're Learning Now/What we will learn next:

We are finding evidence to support theme in Belle Prater's Boy our class read aloud. Also, for the next several weeks, students will be working to develop an understanding of the different types of characters (archetypes) in a text and how those characters' choices move the plot toward a resolution.

The key vocabulary for this unit is:

Protagonist, Antagonist, Static character, Plot, Resolution, Rubric, Book trailer, Critique, and Book review.

Our students will be writing narrative introductions in which they introduce characters(s), and a narrator, establish setting, and suggest a possible conflict.

How to Help: Make sure your child is reading each night. Review vocabulary often.

Physical Education:

What We're Learning Now and Where We're Going Next:

We are learning the game of Bound Ball. It is a game that incorporates volleyball skills. We are learning the basic skills, BUMP, SPIKE, SET and SERVE. It is a consistent theme of teamwork in my class. Next we are doing a Floorball unit.

How to Help: Encourage your child to get out and move during this time of the year. Build a snowman or so for a hike. I give them plenty of advice for in home workouts.

Music:

What We're Learning Now and Where We're Going Next:

In their General Music classes, our sixth graders have just completed their World Drumming Unit and culminating performance, and will be starting their Guitar Unit in January! Our Chorus students are beginning to explore different vocal articulations and our Band students are continuing their unit on key signatures and accidentals.

How To Help:

Establishing a practicing routine at home and a dedicated practice time each day will help your child tremendously with their musical growth. Listening to and interacting with music at home and at performance venues will continue to build the musical skills we work on at school, as well as increase your child's engagement in the performing arts!

Art:

What we are doing now and where we are going next:

Students have been hard at work on a cooperative Winter Village sculpture. Each student had to follow directions to create their own little building to add to the winter village. Students were little architects in the making. Lots of skills go into creating a mini town. Knowledge of the elements and principles of design have come in mighty handy! Line, shape, color, texture, and form are important in creating just about anything as well as some good old fashioned elbow grease and attention to detail. Set up will begin on Tuesday when more houses are complete.

How to help:

Try this at home. Ask your artist to show you how to create a little house. You can use an old Amazon box or a cereal box. Have some fun "creating" together. :)