



Explorer News

Expedition: Living

Things Reproduce: We hope that your child has already told you we have kicked off our insect expedition. Our first investigation is focused on the life cycle and as you can imagine, many Explorers are extremely curious about the vocabulary word "mating." While we always want to explain expedition content as scientists-in a matter of fact manner- we are also aware that the topic of "the birds and the bees" is very sensitive.

Most of our texts simply state something along the lines of, "The male and female mate and then the female lays her eggs." Other texts allude to mating very vaguely: "Then

the male and female fly off together. Later the female lays her eggs." Please take time this weekend to chat with your child about our expedition and allow him/her to explain an insect's life cycle to you. This will give you the opportunity to clarify the vocabulary word "mating" in the way that fits your family and your child.

Valentine's Day

Celebrations: Each base camp will have its own celebration. Please check the back of this letter for a class roster and specific information about your child's party. We ask that students send similar Valentines to each CREW member.

YMCA: The Explorers will be going to the YMCA to swim from February 9 - March 20. Mrs. Swan's Crew: Mondays, Mrs. Hill's Crew: Tuesdays, Ms. Velasco's Crew: Thursdays, Mrs. Bockstruck's Crew: Fridays. Each crew will board the bus at 12:45 and return to school about 2:15 on our designated day. Each student will need a bathing suit, towel and a plastic bag to bring home his/her wet gear. Your child must have a signed permission slip to go to the YMCA.

February 2-6, 2

NUT FREE Cand
Kissables
Skittles
Sweetarts
Nerds
Gum
Junior Mints
Peppermint Patt
Tootsie Rolls
Gum
Rollos
Dots

Math

First Grade Math:

We will be working on digital clocks, timing in seconds and quarters. We will contact to find sums (addition) and differences (subtraction).

Second Grade Math:

Second graders are continuing to work on patterns, counting and place value awareness. They are using number grid and arrow path puzzles to strengthen these skills.

Each base camp is hard at work on a fabulous project. Cash donations toward the purchase of supplies for these masterpieces will be welcomed. Please consider a donation of \$5.00 per student or the amount that fits your family budget.

Contact Informa

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