



Trail Blazer News



Sept. 22nd – 26th, 2008

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Expedition

Our expedition, *Ruckus over the Spokane River*, got off to a great start last week.. This week we will be diving into the properties of water. Students will work through various investigations using the scientific process.



Literacy

Reading – Most students have now been assessed on their reading level. We will be starting to review and reinforce the comprehension reading strategies, beginning with *Determining Importance*. Continue to look for reading logs to come home and be signed weekly.

Writing –It is so very important that students are able to select a topic, narrow the focus and effectively elaborate with specific details to paint the picture for the audience. Because of this, we will continue developing the Trait of Ideas in our Writer's Notebooks this week.

Spelling/Vocabulary

Last week students were introduced to their first set of vocabulary words. They will have a quiz this Friday. They are: **aquifer, groundwater, effluent, toxicity, water shed, body of water, water quality** Look for weekly spelling words to come home and be practiced.



Math

6th Grade – Investigation 2 has students examining more about the relationships among fractions, decimals, and percents. Investigation 3 will also be working with estimating with fractions and decimals. Reinforcement of multiplication and division facts would be very helpful for your student.

5th Grade –We will have a quiz on basic geometric shapes and vocabulary. Students will investigate plotting points on a coordinate grid (if you have the game Battleship, this is great practice). We will focus on using benchmark angles to estimate and angle rulers to obtain precise angle measurements. Thank you for helping your child notice how math is used in our daily life.



In the News...

Lunchtime – Summit Specials are now available to Trail Blazers and Voyagers. Remind your students to sign up for them in the cafeteria and in their crews.

Mark your calendars – All School Ecology Fair is September 30th in the Gym (2:00-2:30pm)

First Peak Assembly is coming up on October 9th. Be sure to get all of your work in!!

REMEMBER

~All Volunteers need current Volunteer forms on file. They can be found in the office.

~Recycling Drive – Please bring in your newspapers, magazines, Phone Books, Aluminum Cans.