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# The 5th Grade Team

December 2017



As the school year moves forward, we would like to introduce the Big Ideas that will be happening during the month of December.

## S.H.A.R.E:

Our school is working on building strong characters and S.H.A.R.E is our school shared values. Please review with your scholars the importance of these values and how a strong character can build a strong foundation for a successful future. This month we're working on Advocacy.

Self Respect · Hard Work · **Advocacy** · Resilience · Empathy

## Important Events in December:

Field Trip to American Museum of Natural History: December 20th  
Winter Recess (school closed): December 25th - January 1st

## Academics:

**Math:** Students will be working on multiplication and division using decimals. Students will learn how to multiply and divide with decimals by using the Area Model, Standard Algorithm, and visual models.

**Science:** Students will explore a new unit called "The Rock Cycle". Students will investigate topics that include, "what are minerals?" and "how can rocks be classified".

**Reading:** We will launch a new reading unit called, "Reading Differently to Get Ready to Write About Your Reading". In this new unit, students will learn how to respond to the texts they read by highlighting literary conversations through partnerships, books clubs, and responses to whole-class read alouds.

**Writing:** We will be writing literary essays. Students will first explore what elements make a literary essay and then progress to writing their own literary essay. Students will grow ideas about the texts they read, thinking not only

about characters and themes of stories, but studying the author's craft and techniques.