

P.S. 203 FIFTH GRADE NEWSLETTER



WHAT WE'RE LEARNING THIS MONTH:

Important Dates to Remember

Nov 2: 1/2 Day, 11:00 a.m. dismissal,
Parent Teacher Conferences from 12:20-2:20
& 4:00-7:00 pm
Nov 3: Student Organization Inauguration
Nov 7: Election Day, NO SCHOOL for students
Nov 22: Last day of S.O. Sock Drive
Nov 23-24: Thanksgiving, NO SCHOOL
Dec 8: Middle School Applications Due

Reminders

- ★ Please be sure to sign your child's HW notebook daily.
- ★ Students should be reading for at least 30 minutes everyday for homework.
- ★ Keep practicing your 0-12 multiplication facts. Also practice division facts to be able to fluently solve with larger numbers.
- ★ Students should know (or write down) their username and passwords for their email/ Google Classroom, iReady, and other student accounts.

Into Reading*

Module 3: Natural Disasters

Students will read a variety of informational texts about natural disasters. This provides opportunities to identify central ideas, summarize events, and to ask and answer questions to better understand unfamiliar texts. Other reading skills we will practice in this module include:

- text structure
- figurative language
- content-area words
- text features

* see attached family letters for more information

Writing

Project Soapbox (Argument Essay)

- Students will identify a community issue they care about and write a persuasive essay on why others should care about that issue.
- Students will engage in the writing and revision process and develop skills in persuasive and argumentative writing, research, speaking, listening, and compelling delivery.

Guiding Questions

- How can we affect change in our communities?
- What are the issues that we most want our communities and elected officials to address?
- How do we identify challenges and possible solutions?

enVision Mathematics 2.0*

Topics 3 & 4 will be assessed together on one test.

Topic 4: Multiply Decimals

- multiply decimals by powers of 10
- estimate products
- model multiplying decimals with hundredths grid
- multiply decimals by whole numbers and decimals

Topic 5: Divide Whole Numbers

- estimate quotients
- divide by multiples of 10
- divide by 2-digit divisors using models, partial quotients, and standard algorithm

* see attached family letters for home activities

Passport to Social Studies/ Civics

UNIT 1 A&B: Geography of the Western Hemisphere

- What is the geologic history of the Western Hemisphere?
- How is the geography of the Western Hemisphere unique?
- How did early people adapt to their environment and contribute to the development of the Western Hemisphere?

Amplify Science (with classroom teacher)

Patterns of Earth and Sky

- What causes the daily pattern of when we see the sun and other stars?
- What causes the yearly pattern of stars that we see?

Your 5th Grade Teachers,

Ms. Agnello, Mrs. A. Farrell, Mrs. K. Farrell, Mr. Mulryan, Ms. Popovits and Ms. Stavropoulos

HELLO, FAMILY!

Over the next three weeks, our class will build their knowledge about natural disasters, with a focus on the informational text genre. We will read texts and view videos about how Earth's movements, features, and weather can cause natural disasters. Children will also write an opinion essay about the best way to prepare for a natural disaster.

BRING IT HOME! Learning fun for the whole family!

Discuss the Topic

Set aside time daily for your child to share with you what he or she is learning. Use these ideas to help build your child's knowledge about the topic:

- Talk about the ideas your child has added to the Knowledge Map each week.
- Ask about the texts your child is reading and what he or she has learned from them.
- Share with your child your own questions about the topic, and work together to find the answers.

Explore the Genre

The genre focus in this module is informational text. Discuss with your child the characteristics of this genre.

Ask your child to read to you each day and make time to read together.

Look for texts that

- spark your child's curiosity
- tie to the module topic
- explore interesting scientific facts and ideas
- have unique formats, graphic features, and visual elements

Build Vocabulary

Use these ideas to help your child build a rich vocabulary.

The Big Idea Reinforce the topic words *notable*, *spontaneous*, *tremor*, and *hazard* in everyday conversations with your child. Use prompts like these: What **hazards** do you avoid? Describe the last **spontaneous** thing you did.

What Does It Mean? Have your child keep a growing list of the Critical Vocabulary words. Quiz each other on their meanings.

Word Hunt Look for words with roots *graph*, *gram*, *geo*, *rupt*, *fer*; suffixes *-logy/-logist*; and prefixes *inter-*, *com-/con-/cor-* in books, magazines, online texts, and environmental print.

Name _____

Use Models and Strategies to Multiply Decimals

Dear Family,

Your student is learning to multiply whole numbers and decimals to hundredths. He or she will learn to represent the mathematical reasoning involved in multiplication situations using objects and models. Your student will also learn how to use patterns to place the decimal point when a decimal is multiplied by a power of 10. He or she will apply his or her understanding of place value to estimate decimal products.

This topic also uses money as a real-world context to connect mathematics to problems arising in everyday life.

Here is an activity you can complete with your student to help him or her learn about estimating products.

About How Much?

Materials: grocery items with prices marked

Step 1 Display several different grocery items with prices marked.

Step 2 Have your student choose one of the items and the number of that item that he or she wishes to buy.

Step 3 Have your student estimate about how much his or her purchase will cost. He or she may round to whole numbers or use compatible numbers to help estimate. For example, 4×2.89 is close to 4×3 , and $4 \times 3 = 12$. The total cost will be about \$12. Similarly, to estimate $16 \times \$3.18$ you can use 15×3 , and $15 \times 3 = 45$. The total cost will be about \$45.

Observe Your Child

Have your student explain how knowing a basic multiplication fact like $3 \times 4 = 12$ can help them to multiply 0.3×0.4 .

Name _____

Use Models and Strategies to Divide Whole Numbers

Dear Family,

In this topic, your student continues to develop his or her understanding of division by using number sense and models to divide whole numbers up to 4-digits by 2-digit divisors.

Your student will use strategies such as rounding and compatible numbers to estimate quotients. Then he or she will use patterns, relationships, and the standard algorithm to calculate the actual quotients.

Here are two activities that you can do with your student to help him or her review division and practice estimating when dividing with greater numbers and two-digit divisors.

Reviewing Basic Facts

Review basic division facts. Have your student name a related multiplication fact for each division fact. For example, if the flash card shows $42 \div 7 = 6$, a related multiplication fact is $6 \times 7 = 42$.

Break It Up

Step 1 Choose a 3-digit number, such as 526.

Step 2 Work with your student to create a story that involves dividing the chosen whole number into a number of equal groups that is greater than 10.

Step 3 Have your student find the number in each group and tell if there is a remainder.

Observe Your Child

Have your student explain how knowing a basic division fact like $12 \div 4 = 3$ can help them find the quotient $1,200 \div 40$.