



4th Grade Flyer

November 2011

LITERACY

We will continue reading for literary experience, adding the literary genres of realistic fiction and historical fiction. Students will learn how the setting of a story,



particularly a historical setting, affects the characters and the plot. The focus for writing is on writing to inform. Each fourth grade student will produce a research paper on Native Americans. The students will be using at least three different sources of information. They will learn how to use non-fiction text features and graphic organizers to collect and organize information from text and internet sources. This project coincides with and complements our social studies unit on Native Americans.

You may want to consider a visit to the National Museum of the American Indian at the Smithsonian. It would make a great family outing.

MATH MATTERS

Fourth grade students are expected to accurately compute 100 basic multiplication facts in 5 minutes.



Students have begun a unit on multiplication and division concepts and computation. Mastery of the basic multiplication facts and the related division facts helps students make reasonable estimates and perform accurate operations with large numbers. In addition to the classroom practice, a

10-minute daily effort at home will yield success with memorization of multiplication facts.

The fifth grade math class is currently studying geometry. Students will be identifying and comparing two- and three-dimensional figures, as well as describing relationships between the parts of a circle. You can assist your child by comparing household items to geometric terms. Using terms like acute, obtuse, faces, bases, and circumference can help in this regard.

SOCIAL STUDIES



During November we will be analyzing historical depictions of Native Americans in Maryland in order to determine how culture is related to the geography of a region. We will specifically study the Yaocomaco Native Americans of Maryland. Primary sources, text analysis and picture analysis will be used to study the Yaocomaco of Maryland.

SCIENCE



We have just concluded our *Life Science* unit and look forward to the next unit, *Environmental Science*, which is directly related to our study

of ecosystems. Students will learn how human activities affect the environment and how organisms survive. They will also learn how ecosystems differ.

INSTR. MUSIC REMINDER

Students who are involved in the Instrumental Music Program have an added responsibility. Since instrumental instruction is during class time, students are missing 50 minutes of classroom instruction and class work. It is the student's responsibility to determine any make-up work that needs to be completed and do so in a timely fashion. Please help us emphasize this obligation with your child.



FIELD TRIP!

On Thursday, December 8th the fourth grade classes will be going to the Beall-Dawson House in



Rockville. Look for more details about the trip towards the end of this month.

Have a wonderful November!



Sincerely,
The Fourth Grade Team