



Washington Grove
Gaithersburg, MD

NOVEMBER
2009-2010

Fourth Grade Monthly Newsletter

Math

During the month of November, fourth grade students will begin the second math unit, which covers number patterns and relationships. The students will practice number computation with multiplication and division and learn about factors and multiples. The students will also learn how to solve expressions with parentheses and practice using the commutative and associative properties in those expressions.

What can I do to help my child in math? Practicing multiplication and division problems at home would be very beneficial for your child. One way to practice is to use flash cards. Flash cards can either be made on index cards or purchased, rather inexpensively.

Social Studies

"Migration: Three Worlds Collide"

This month students will be exploring and comparing the cultural conditions of Native Americans, West Africa, and the societies of Europe prior to colonization. Students will be asked to examine the impact of geography on these cultures.

Students will continue to take part in a "Native Americans of the United States" project. They will collect and organize information for a written document and a culminating class presentation.

Later students will begin to explore immigration experiences of the past and present in Maryland and the United States.

Reading/Language Arts

During the month of November, students will be reading for literary experience using the genres of realistic fiction and historical fiction. Students will be working in guided reading groups as well as independently to identify story elements such as characters, setting, plot, problem and solution and cause and effect relationships.

In writer's workshop, students will be writing to inform their audience. Students will be working to ask questions, gather information from websites and books, organize this information, and finally, present what they have found out. Students will focus on a specific Native American tribe to do their research on.

Science

The focus for the month of November is survival in an ecosystem and upsetting the ecosystem's stability. The students will discuss how animals have adapted for survival in their environment. We will discuss different regions of the world and how animals are able to survive in those regions.

The students will also be exploring the impact of pollution on an ecosystem. The students will plan a scientific experiment that will demonstrate the affect of pollution on our eco-columns. We will then analyze the data and discuss how acid rain, road salt, and fertilizer have an impact on our real ecosystem.



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Important Dates

- November 3rd -Second Marking Period Begins
- November 4th- College Awareness Day
- November 6th- Assembly: Groove Nation
- November 9th-Deadline for Highly Gifted Center Applications-Clemente MS
- November 11th- Report Cards Distributed
- November 11th and 12th- Parent Teacher Conferences; Dismissal at 1:00
- November 25th- Dismissal at 1:00
- November 26th and 27th- No School

