

May Newsletter

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

Important Information:

May is **Asian American and Pacific Islander Month**. Below are some resources to support this:

- [Asian American and Pacific Islander Month](#)
- [History.com](#)
- [National Archives](#)
- [Smithsonian](#)
- [National Park Service](#)

MCAP testing has begun! Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will take both the English Language Arts and Math assessments in the first two weeks of May. Please encourage your child(ren) to:

- get a good night's sleep
- eat a healthy, filling breakfast
- arrive to school on time
- give their best effort

Kindergarten

Kindergarteners will first finish up unit 11, **Taking Care of the Earth**.

They will:

- draw and write about pollution
- express opinions about different kinds of pollution
- write about how to take care of the Earth

They will then will move into unit 12, **Presidents and American Symbols**, in which they will:

- compare and contrast presidents with kings and queens
- recognize characteristics of a legend
- discuss the life and contributions of George Washington



First Grade

The students in first grade will continue a unit they started in April, **A New Nation: American Independence**. They will learn the following language skills:

- identify and use regular past, present, and future tense verbs
- write summaries of the Founding Fathers
- combine several ideas into a sentence
- draw and write about an American symbol

After that, the students will start a research unit, **Tales from the Edges of the World**. They will:

- ask and answer questions about adventurers
- identify characteristics of an adventure story
- make a personal connection to a time they faced a challenge



Second Grade

Second graders started a unit on **Immigration**, which will continue into May. They will work on the following skills:

- ask and answer questions about immigration
- identify and use irregular past tense verbs
- add details to sentences by using adverbs and adjectives
- write a letter to the President give details about the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights



Third Grade

Third graders will continue unit 10, **Colonial America**. They will:

- identify cause and effect relationships in an informational text about John Smith
- use their knowledge of the prefixes *over-*, *under-*, and *mid-* to determine the meaning of unknown words
- distinguish between informal and formal language and appropriate use of each type of language
- add adjectives to sentences in order to create noun phrases
- use transitions to connect ideas in a paragraph



Fourth Grade

This month, fourth graders will begin unit 7: **The American Revolution**. Students will learn about the disagreements and the principles of government that led colonists in the 13 colonies of North America to seek independence from Great Britain.



Students will deepen their understanding and comprehension of complex texts. The culminating writing centers on expository writing skills to develop paragraphs describing attitudes toward the Intolerable Acts and the significance of the first shot fired in Lexington.

Fifth Grade

Fifth graders begin the Native Americans unit this month! Their reader explores how the policies of the American government in the 1800s and contact between Native Americans and settlers, missionaries, traders, and explorers affected Native American traditions, culture, way of life, and relationship



with the land. The final writing activity focuses on note-taking, incorporating evidence, and crafting an argument to convince readers that a chosen image best shows the connection between Native Americans and the land.