

Johnson Journal

November 1st, 2011

Special points of interest:

The 8th grade students will be doing a Spell-A-Thon fundraiser this month! They will be asking family friends and community members to sponsor them. More information will be coming out at the end of the week. If your family chooses not to participate, please let me know. You can make a donation instead.

8th Grade Spelling List

Review

Convince

Allowed

Nobody

Details

Error

Raised

Businessman

Distinguished

General

Success

Circumstances

Eighteenth

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Cardinal Community Academy Middle School

Science

The students will be finishing their unit on Skin, Bones, and Muscles this week. We will review on Wednesday and take a test on Friday. The students did receive a study guide last week so they know what they should study.

We will also be finishing our Albert Einstein story books. Final copies must be emailed to me by Wednesday next week.

Science Fair- The students should be gathering their materials and completing their experiment for science fair. If the project takes a couple weeks to complete, the should be started NOW. I appreciate all your help and support with getting the materials and supervising their experiment. All data from their experiment must be collected by Nov. 11th. Please let me know if you have questions.

Homework:

Due Friday: Study for Test!

Core

For writing this week we will be focusing on the writing trait of word choice. As a class we will revise and search for words that are over used and cliché. These words will be considered "dead."

We will also discuss surface revisions and how we can use them to improve our writing.

In grammar, we will begin a new chapter covering predicate nouns and quotation rules. As the year has been progressing, the students keep adding more and more information to their gram-

mar plate. We will spend some time this week recapping what they already know. They will create a notes page organizing all of the parts of speech, and the different jobs each part can have.

In CORE on Friday, students will be visiting with the board on their ideal trip location. They will be trying to persuade board members to approve their trip to San Francisco. Parents are welcome to come and watch. We will begin at 2:45pm on Friday.

Homework :

Due Friday: Core Packet

Due Friday: Rough Draft 3 of Ever Wonder Why Paper (if the students make enough revisions, this will be their final copy).

Science

The 6th graders will be finishing their Ocean's unit this week. We will review on Tuesday and test on Thursday. The students will receive a list of what they should study. I have talked with them about study strategies. They should not try to memorize the information. They need to thoroughly understand the info, not just remember it.

Also on Tuesday we will dissect three different types of Echinoderms; starfish, sea urchins, sea cucumbers.

Homework:

Due Tuesday– Study Guide

Due Thursday– Study for Test!

Science Fair

For science fair the students should be gathering their materials and completing their experiments. All 6th graders will complete their experiments at school next week. This means that they must bring in their materials this week so we are ready to go. Please contact me if you have questions!

Essential Question:
How have scientists throughout history positively or negatively impacted the environment?

Science

Last week the students and I began exploring their next unit, Invertebrates. It was a very exciting class and we discussed and looked at pictures of Platyhelminthes – Flat worms. The students had some great questions and it was fun to answer them. This week we will continue with this unit by learning about Round Worms and Segmented Worms.

On Wednesday, the students will take their test on the Nervous System. We discussed the importance of studying and understanding the information. Memoriz-

ing will not be enough for the students to get an A on their test. They must be able to understand and manipulate the information they have.

Homework this week-

Due Wednesday– Study for Test!

Due next Wednesday: Worm worksheet

**Essential
Question:
How have
scientists
throughout
history
positively or
negatively
impacted the
environment?**

Science Fair

For science fair this week the students should be gathering their materials and working on their experiments. All experiments and data must be completed by Nov. 11th. If the students' project takes two weeks to do, they should have started the experiment this past weekend! Please let me know if you have questions on this!