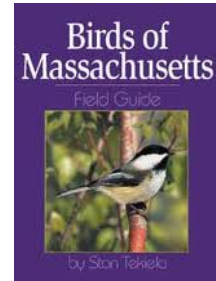


12th Home-School Connection

December 13, 2012

LAST HSC OF 2012!



DYOH (Design Your Own Homework):

You got your very first DYOH. It is a week-long project that has five parts: brainstorming ideas, planning the project, doing the project, evaluating what you learned and grading it. Talk to your parents about the different types of projects you thought about doing and why you picked the one you did. What did you learn from the DYOH? Would you want to do one again? Why do you say that?

BIRDS behaviors BIRDS beaks BIRDS skulls: You are learning a great deal about birds from observing them in your neighborhood, the guidebooks, and the Nature and Cornell Ornithology movies we've been looking at. You have been learning how to identify birds by their behaviors (perching, foraging, flight patterns) by their feet, beaks, size, shape, and markings. On Friday, you did a skull observation using a replica of a great blue heron and a mallard duck replica. On Monday, we're doing something called 'Bird Buffet' where we think about the form and function of different bird beaks and the types of food they eat. All of you have also picked at least one bird to focus on as you look at other birds too. What bird did you pick? Why did you pick it?

12/12/12 and SCRIBBLERS: On Wednesday, it was the remarkable date of 12/12/12. This won't happen again for another 100 years, so we took advantage of the opportunity, and did a lot of things related to the number 12. This included writing in your scribbler's notebook a 'little story' about a memorable time that lasted *for around 12* minutes and a homework where there were 12 items to choose from that all had to do with the number 12. Describe what you chose to write about and discuss what you chose to do for the "12" homework.

RIVER TABLE: You are drawing plans for our river table as we turn it into a colonial New England village along the Charles River. What did you include in your plan? What do you enjoy about the river table?



DECIMALS/FRACTIONS/PERCENTS and...RATIOS:

Continue to keep your eyes out for samples you might be able to share or bring in to school related to decimals, fractions, percent's, and ratios. Can you explain each of those items to your parent? Try to do that with the amount of girls and boys in our class- 12 boys and 8 girls. Ms. Davidson gave our class some challenge problems around two fraction ice cream problems that seemed similar but were different once you dove in. If you did the problem, what did you learn from doing it? If you didn't, what have you begun to understand better about decimals?

SHADOW MEASURING: In September at the Fall Equinox, we went out and measured our shadows at 1:40 p.m. We did that again on Friday at the same time in honor of the Winter Solstice. There are some photos posted on our website of our class measuring shadows. Were you surprised at the difference in length of the shadows? Can you explain why there is such a dramatic difference?

CURSIVE/HANDWRITING: This week's skill was cursive. Do you think this has been a good use of your time? What are you getting better at? Any particular letters or size or slant?

SOMETHING ELSE? Thinking about what animal you might choose for your animal story, Lostman's River, New England Colonies, Anne Hutchinson and Roger Williams, completing and evaluating animal poster/podcast, getting ready to share our work before vacation.... Write at least 2 more ideas below.

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SPECIALS: Describe what has been going on in Music, Art, P.E., C.O.B (chorus, orchestra, band), and Chinese.

Due: FRIDAY 12/21/12 (updated). We made a time to do the HSC on _____
Parent Signature: _____
Comments:

Student Rating: Please say why.

