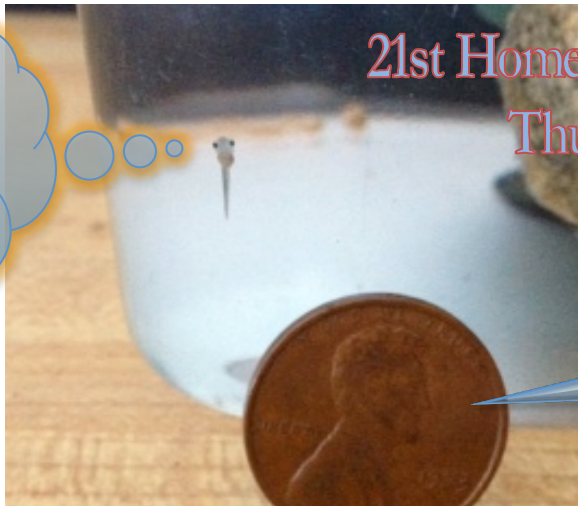


21st Home/School Connection  
Thursday, 3.14.13  
(Pie Day)

Hi 5SH! I'm one of the newly born tadpoles.



The penny is to help you see how big the tadpole is.

- PHOTO OF TADPOLE: Above is a photo taken on Wednesday, of one of our newly born tadpoles! I hope it and its siblings live. No matter what, it is pretty exciting that the eggs hatched after having been transferred from the big tank. Speaking of living, Crackle, the tadpole's mother seems to be doing better than she was on Monday. She has been chirping and chirping after school. It must be spring.



- CIRCUITS, FLASHLIGHTS AND SPRINGS: Speaking of spring, the spring inside the flashlight, acted as part of the circuit that helped the bulb light up. You have spent time dissecting a flashlight, putting it back together again and learning how to make a circuit. You experimented with different objects to see which ones act as conductors and which ones are insulators Explain those words and what you found out. After doing this investigation, explain as clearly as you can, how a flashlight works. Do you have any flashlights in your house? If yes, look at them and then explain some of the differences between the ones in our classroom and the ones in your house. Now what questions do you have about circuits, electricity, or light? Perhaps the Bill Nye video on our webpage will answer some questions.

- WRITING READING RESPONSES: You are going to take the ELA MCAS next Monday and Wednesday. You have been reading and learning how to write clear responses. This is NOT just for the MCAS test. It will help you answer questions in all subjects. It is not creative writing because you have to use the text to prove your point, but it does take your imagination to visualize what the author is telling you. Are you better able to find evidence from the text to support your ideas? Are you better able to plan? Is it easier for you to write paragraphs that answer the question? Explain what you are better able to do now.

- LOSTMAN'S RIVER- ENDING AND GUY BRADLEY PROJECT. We finished Lostman's River today and you have to write a paragraph describing how you would have ended the book. Tell your parent what happened and what you think should happen. We also began to discuss what we might do for our Guy Bradley Project. Share what we read and listened to about Forest Elephants. <http://www.wbur.org/npr/173559220/extinction-looms-for-forest-elephants-due-to-poaching>. Describe what you think our class should do for a Guy Bradley project.

GENRES: Over the last few weeks you have been reading and writing responses to different genres. *Lostman's River* and *Caddie Woodlawn* = historical fiction, *Foul Flora* = Informational Text, *The Ebony Room* = Poetry, *Play of Anne of Green Gables*, *Anansi*= Folktale and *By the Caldron* = fantasy. You will also read a biography about the Wright Brothers. What are features of each of those genres? In other words, what makes historical fiction different than other kinds of fiction? What do you see in a play that you don't see in a story? What makes a poem different than a paragraph? Talk about this. Do you have a favorite type of genre? If you had to pick one type of genre to write, what would you pick? \_\_\_\_\_ Explain why.

YOU'RE ON A NEW TEAM. There are four of you on your team instead of five. What is something that you notice that is different about being on a team with four people? Before you went into the new team, you wrote about something you learned from each of your former teammates. You also made a goal for yourself for your new team. What is your goal? How can your new teammates help you?

TRAVEL MATH AND 3D GEOMETRY: You are working with students from different classes – I do not know everything you are doing in each room, but I do know that you are looking at 3D rectangular prisms and figuring out how to find their volume and how many packages of cubes of varying sizes would fit into boxes with different volumes. If you are doing something else, explain what you have been doing with your group. How's it going?

CHAPTER 11 (Fractions) TO CHAPTER 10 (Area and Perimeter): We finished our fraction test and are now looking at 2D geometry. You are learning how to find the area of different polygons. Explain what you have learned so far about how to find the area and perimeter of rectangles and parallelograms. You are also learning a lot of geometry vocabulary. Explain what is similar and different about polygons, quadrilaterals, parallelograms, rectangles, squares, and rhombus. If you are not sure, look in your glossary and vocabulary sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_: Statement: \_\_\_\_\_  
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SPECIALS: What's going on in Library, Art, Music, P.E., C.O.B., and Chinese (What did you talk about? \_\_\_\_\_)

**Due: MONDAY.** Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Comments:

Student Rating: 1-5. Please say why.