

Home-School Connection #6

October 18, 2012

I'd rather be a sparrow
than a snail.
Yes I would. If I could,
I surely would.
I'd rather be a hammer
than a nail.
Yes I would. If I only could,
I surely would.



Hey!

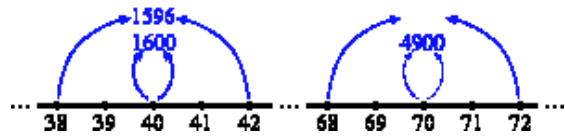


- SPELLING/WORD USAGE: This week we focused on 20 words that are often misused or misspelled. One of the words was 'than'... that's why you have the sparrow song above written by Simon and Garfunkel. You are learning to break each word down by syllable and put the word into action (WIA) to show you understand the word and can use it correctly in your daily writing.
- SENTENCES: SUBJECT/PREDICATE/GRAMMAR: WHAT MAKES A SENTENCE? Creativity is key to writing, but you also need to know how to construct your sentences. That is an art too! *Note the spelling word *too*. Describe what you learned about subjects and predicates. Explain 'complete' and 'simple' subjects and 'complete' and 'simple' predicates. Show your parents how you can break any sentence into two parts. *Note the picture at the top about the hero. Depending on where and when your parents went to school, they may have had a lot of grammar or very little. What's their grammar story? Ask.
- PLACE POEMS and LOVE THAT DOG: This week we read more from the Sharon Creech book, *Love that Dog*. We looked carefully at the Robert Frost poem called, *Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening*. You can see it again on our website:
http://www.clccharter.org/andrea/reading/dog_poems.html
You analyzed Mr. Frost's poem – you looked at its rhyme pattern, line breaks, senses, colors, sounds, etc. We tried to infer what the poem was about. We looked at how poets will create contrast – In this poem Frost compared the quiet of the dark, deep night with the shake of the horse's bells. This led you to brainstorm 6 or more places you might write about. Describe some of the places you thought about and which one you decided to focus on. Why do you think those places were memorable to you? Why did you pick the place you did?
- IMMIGRATION/MIGRATION: In social studies we're looking at a historical atlas and our big U.S. history textbook to understand who came first to our country and why they came. Explain how and why there are different theories about who, how and why the first people came to North America. Explain how the geography, latitude and climate influence people's movement. This has everything to do with why birds migrate too. Perhaps, discuss when and why your own family came to this country and if any of it had to do with geography.

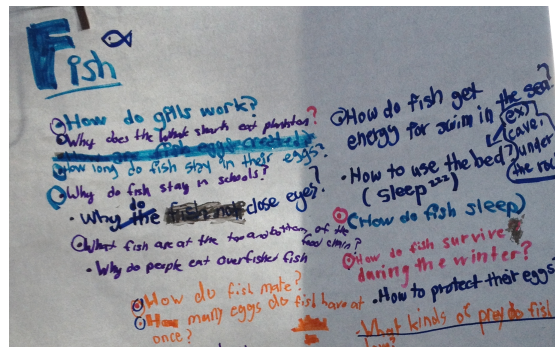




MATH: You are finishing chapter 2. You are all getting better at solving a problem when you know the square number and you multiply the neighbors or when you know the neighbors and find the square number. This week when Ms. Davidson was working with us, you cut up arrays to see how and why this method works. You also practiced with products that are five steps away from a square number. Five steps away are always 25 less than the square number in the middle. Show how you would find the product of 45×45 using the 5-step-away- from-neighbors method. Hint: $40 \times 50 = \underline{\quad} + 25 =$ the product of 45×45 .



QUESTIONS AND ANIMAL RESEARCH: You and your animal group have made an extensive list of questions and you are now starting to dig into varying resources to find the answers. We discussed how human beings and trees and many other natural objects start with a trunk and then branch out. Your research has to do the same. You need to figure out the main traits (trunk) that make your animal the vertebrate that it is and then you will figure out other facts that branch out from these main ideas. Share some of the questions you and your group wondered about. I posted some photos of your questions on our website.



<http://francescastarkgrade5website.weebly.com/photos--videos.html>

Explain some of what you have already learned and ask your mom or dad questions they have about your type of animal. You could add their questions to our lists!

SOMETHING ELSE? Laptops, Bird Observations, Art Barn Play on Leadership, Morning Meeting Topics (If I had a Million Dollars), Organization Ogres, something else? I chose to talk about:

SPECIALS: What's going on in your specials? Music, Art, P.E., C.O.B. Chinese and library (the story of Esther Hobart Morris)? What did you talk about? _____

Due: Monday: (We made a time to sit and do the HSC together on _____

Parent Signature: _____

Comments:

Student Rating (1-5). Please say why: YOU (Student) have to do this or it will be incomplete.

