



# 23rd HOME/SCHOOL CONNECTION

Thursday, March 28, 2013



- MATH:** This week we finished chapter 10 on 2D geometry. You learned how to find the areas and perimeter of parallelograms, triangles, trapezoids, and other polygons. You are also learning how to convert measurements according to scale. For example, if you have a square with 4 cm sides and each cm = 4 feet, what is the area of the square? \_\_\_\_\_ You took the final chapter 10 test today (Thursday). How did it go? You are also in a 3D geometry travel math group. How is your math group different or similar to having class just with 5SH? What are you learning about volume and surface area? I would like it if you would start to look around your house at things that come in boxes and start to notice the volume of the boxes. Note what is going in the boxes as you think about their design. Name me one box you looked at in your house and what the volume of it is.

What was in the box? \_\_\_\_\_ Volume = \_\_\_\_\_

Next week will start to focus on measuring angles and identifying different types of triangles. You'll meet Auntie Scalene and Auntie Isosceles.

- OPTICS AND ANGLES:** Speaking of angles, this week we did an experiment by dropping a Ping-Pong ball on different surfaces (rocks, gravel, sand, and the bare floor). We measured how high the ball bounced on each surface and it's angle of deflection. (how far off course the ball went from it's original path). What did you observe? Explain how this experiment connects to the way light behaves on different surfaces. Use words like reflect and absorb, and explain how texture, color, and distance all affect how light behaves.

- OPTICS IN THE NEWS:** On Wednesday, you listened to a story about a plane that runs entirely on solar energy. The plane, called Solarimpulse, stores enough energy that it can fly all night too. I put the story on our webpage and here is the link: There is a video showing it too.  
<http://www.wbur.org/npr/175371800/solar-powered-plane-uses-its-lightness-to-fly-in-the-dark>.



**SOCIAL STUDIES:** We have been learning about the French and Indian War. How well can you explain the following? Why did the French and British fight? How did colonists get involved? Why did George Washington work with the British? How come the British lost the battle at Fort Necessity? What happened after that? As you read, are you trying to picture (visualize) what was going on? Are you asking questions? This is key for understanding and remembering what you read. It is why I showed you the movie clip from the PBS film called, "The War That Made America". It's on our social studies webpage. I want you to picture history. Even if you don't love textbooks, what are some aspects of it you feel you can learn from?

**RIVER TABLE:** Our Colonial Village is coming along. The land your colonial family has is developing but the common areas need work. You need to do more research to see what were on most common areas in colonial villages. For example, what did they do with colonists who committed crimes? This week, we also worked with Ms. Davidson and Aviva on the scale of the river table. You realized many of our farm animals are half the size of the houses! That is okay. We will try to make the homes, boats, and land around your homes in scale. To do this, we need to start figuring out the average size of colonial homes. We will then figure out a good scale. As part of your homework, I want you to find the area, perimeter, and height in feet/inches of one room in your home and one thing inside the room. For example, if you do your bedroom, measure that and your bed.

Room: \_\_\_\_\_ Area \_\_\_\_\_ Perimeter \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_

Object in room: \_\_\_\_\_ Area \_\_\_\_\_ Perimeter \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_

**ANIMAL STORIES:** You are making a lot of progress. What have you accomplished this week? Do you need to spend some time this weekend making sure your story has enough scientific facts in it? Do you need to start practicing the illustrations? If yes, talk to your parents about when you could do this. What do you feel you are learning about writing from creating this animal story? Think about the creative part, the organization part, and grammar and punctuation.

**SPECIALS/ANYTHING ELSE:** What's going on in Library, Art, Music, P.E., C.O.B., Chinese or other parts of school? What did you talk about? \_\_\_\_\_

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

Parent Comments:

Student Rating: 1-5. Please say why.

