

OUR CLASS WEBPAGE
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Biblionasium

Website login is the 5 letters of last name/3 letters of first name &

Thank you to Mrs. Alsip for our Minecraft Rocks! bulletin board. Stop by to see her creativity.

Announcement

CREATIVITY...IS JUST HAVING ENOUGH DOTS TO CONNECT.
~STEVE JOBS

EARTH MATERIALS

Our next science unit, Rocks and Minerals, has just started. We'll continue reading informational text to identify the main idea and supporting details and also compare two or more sources on the same topic. Students will classify a collection of rocks based on their properties, as well as recognize and explain how weathering and erosion cause changes to the earth's surface. Our non-fiction focus continues to integrate with informational writing, so we can see what published authors do well in their writing. To conclude our study, students will become experts on one of the 12 Famous Rock Formations in the USA and create a brochure to inform others.

CONGRATS TO LUCAS SNYDER FOR EARNING THE PILLAR OF CARING THIS MONTH. HE REPRESENTED OUR CLASS AT THE GOLDEN TABLE. GREAT WORK LUCAS!

MATH CHECKPOINT

Students will be taking our math checkpoint on multiplication and division, word problems & area and perimeter to wrap up the marking period. If you're looking for extra practice at home, www.tenmarks.com or www.mathplayground.com are websites that may help. In marking period 3, we'll find equivalent fractions, compare fractions and represent fac-

tions on a number line diagram. Students will have the opportunity to use visual models throughout this challenging unit.

These Mathplayground activities reinforce our current unit:

Games 1:
Area and Perimeter
Word Problems:
Hoops
Grand Slam Math
Word Problems with Katie

FAIRNESS

This month at EKD we will focus on the pillar of FAIRNESS. Students who are fair play by the rules, take turns and share, are open-minded, listen to others and treat people fairly. I will be encouraging these behaviors within our school day.

INFORMATIONAL WRITING

Our Keynote presentations highlighted our information writing unit. We worked on using the following components when writing:

- Table of Contents
- Text Features
- Bibliography
- Paragraphs using main idea/supporting details

Students used the informational Writing Rubric, posted on MyBigCampus, to self-assess their own work and work with peers to finalize their presentation. We will create another informational piece prior to our county assessment, which be given at the end of the marking period. Students will create a brochure as yet another way share what they've learned using various text features. I encourage your child to read informational text at home to see models of good writing.

WORD WIZARDS

During the month of January our weekly word work/spelling will focus on Language Standards for third grade, which include working with prefixes, root words and suffixes. We will integrate our vocabulary study throughout reading and writing. For example, when making our New Year's Reading Resolutions we discussed the meaning of the word *resolute* in order to understand the definition of resolution. In science, we discussed the meaning of Geologist by looking at the prefix *Geo* (Earth) and the suffix *ology* (the study of). The goal is for students to use known root words as a clue to the meaning of unknown words. Our word work focus will lead to increased vocabulary acquisition.

