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5th Grade News



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Upcoming Events

Feb 7 Food Drive Ends

Feb 15 Late Start

"Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration."

~ Thomas A. Edison

Math ~ The concepts in Unit 7 cover: using numbers written in exponential and scientific notation; using parentheses and applying the order of operations to evaluate expressions and to solve number sentences; ordering, comparing, adding, and subtracting positive and negative numbers.

Reading Language Arts ~ We began our novel unit. Most of the novels relate to our theme, *what we learn from our experiences*. Novels are divided into five parts. Students read each part and write a written response to what they have read. The focus is on writing clear, organized responses that include details from the book to support the student's ideas. Students meet with other students who are reading the same book to share thought-provoking questions.

Science ~ In our third investigation in the Food and Nutrition Unit, we will use baking soda as an indicator for acid. We begin by observing the reaction when the two chemicals are mixed by capturing the carbon dioxide that forms in a reaction bottle (vinegar and baking soda). Next, we investigate which fruits have the most acid by combining the fruit juice with the baking soda and seeing which one forms the most gas.

In the last test in this unit, we will test orange juice for the presence of Vitamin C. A blue chemical called Indophenol indicates the presence of Vitamin C. When Vitamin C is added to Indophenol, the liquid clears up.

In addition, we will study the food pyramid as well as nutritional guidelines in order to determine whether we are eating a healthy diet. We will be doing some research in the computer lab after logging food intake for one day. This will take us through the end of February (projected).

Social Studies ~ Chapter 7 will begin our discussion on the causes of the Revolutionary War including: the French and Indian War, new taxes imposed by Britain, the Boston Massacre, and the Boston Tea Party. We will move in to some of the first battles of the war, including the Battles of Lexington and Concord and the Battle of Bunker Hill. We will also learn about some legendary Patriots such as Patrick Henry, John Adams, Paul Revere, Mercy Otis Warren, and Samuel Adams.

It is an exciting chapter!

