Third Grade News / Curriculum	09/03/21 - Newsletter

Reading: Scaredy Squirrel - part II

   Following a fun pattern of rewriting a story, we will look at the Battle Bunny story and begin the process of taking an existing story and making adjustments to create an partially/entirely new story that still maintains a linear storyline that makes sense.

   It sounds easy...but this is a big-fun task of coming up with a plan, reconfiguring the story that already is on the page into something else. This will show off some of the students with big creative ideas, but also fits those that only wish to make minor changes.

   This will also be our first video project using ClassDojo Student Portfolios!!

Math: Chapter 2: Addition
- **Mon.** NO SCHOOL - Labor Day
- **Tues.** Chp. 2 - PRETEST
- **Wed.** Chp. 2 - Classwork and Enrichment
- **Thurs** Chp. 2 - Classwork and Enrichment
- **Fri.** Chp. 2 - Classwork and Enrichment

Chapter **2** Addition

Science / Social Studies:
- Maps Skills, Scholastic News
- Weather Journal (version#2…)

Enrichment/Project Work:
- TinkerCAD - Medallions, Pens...and maybe project #3
- Programming: LightBot, Code.org and Scratch.mit.edu

Upcoming Events:

SEPTEMBER 2021
M   6   Labor Day - No School
F   17   **Professional Staff Day (staff only)**
          (no school for students)

http://mrbrantley.weebly.com/news-blog

Hello Parents,

   I thought last week was busy...this week has ended with a flurry of activity unlike anything I have seen yet from this class!! Great energy was seen today as students wrapped up work from this week and did a thorough "clean up" of their academic work and project work.

   This week also finished up with several quizzes, final assignments and other work. It's been a busy day...but such great work and positive activity!!

   Monday is Labor Day...so no school. That means a four day week. Somehow I always manage to work myself like it's five days...but I'm very careful NOT to overload the class. That said, it's going to be a busy week. We have kicked off the first of the MinecrafEDU assignments with students creating a perimeter image using Google Sheets (spreadsheet). This is great, especially for those that apply some of the formula skills and let the program add up the perimeter. After completing this sheet the students will then recreate the same image in MinecraftEDU in specified workspaces. If that isn't enough excitement and enrichment, we are also kicking off programming. Both Code.org and Scratch are the first flavors we will be exploring. I know many students already have some skills/foundation in programming and coding. Scratch serves as a pretty well organized classroom group for creating programs or interactions for fun or for learning. Some might even create book projects with Scratch! For those that are new or feel overwhelmed by Scratch, Code.org is a wonderful starting place. The directions and video support make students feel more confident and usually they experience more success and feel like early coders soon!

   Some of you may question if the experiences in MinecraftEDU and the various coding/programming are true learning. I would argue that the problem solving skills students develop and apply are outstanding for them succeeding and progressing in many other academic areas. We don't "play" Minecraft, we use it as a tool for learning using a 3D world where we can create in an infinite sandbox framework.

   I am excited about next week. Many new "tools" are headed for this classes' toolbox (in the proverbial sense). Each day will be a new learning experience...it's going to be fun!!

Have a GREAT 3-DAY WEEKEND!!!

BOOK PROJECTS: **5 projects due 1st grading period. 5 due by October 14.**
http://mrbrantley.weebly.com/book-projects.html

Vocabulary: Module 02 Week 01
These words are NOT spelling words
We will work with these words for meaning, usage in sentences and practice throughout the reading.

BIG IDEA WORDS	HIGH-FREQUENCY WORDS
express	believe
convey	happy
chronicle	love
creative	felt

CRITICAL VOCABULARY WORDS

video
hydrant
block
costumes
march

These CRITICAL VOCABULARY Words are the words we will use in our etymology and meaning study

INSTRUCTIONAL VOCABULARY

graphic feature
text feature
type
event
retell
narrator
point of view
ellipses
label
character
literary elements
plot
setting