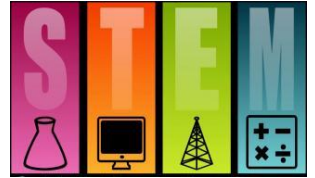


Brantley3rd Grade Classroom News

www.mrbrantley.weebly.com



Third Grade: News / Curriculum

Date: 04-12-2013

Reading: Spiders and their Webs

Focus Skills: *Make Inferences*

Spelling Unit: #27 – see below

Vocabulary Lesson #: *justice, task, prey, shallow, strands, social, spiral, reels, elaborate, inventive*

Science / Social Studies:

- Time Life for Kids: Monday HW Quiz
- Science Studies Weekly: study guide in class/HW
- Minetest structure projects
- Potential Energy racers (Lego – Gutter Grand Prix)
- Robot programming – LEGO NXT robotics

Math:

Topic #7 Quizzes completed by Tuesday

Topic #8 Division continued...working

Topic #10 Solid shapes

Upcoming Events:

April 2013

- F 19 Snow Makeup Day #2—**YES SCHOOL!!!!**
- April 25th Happy Hollow 3rd grade visit
- April 26th Nano Days field trip

Dear Parents,

This has been nice solid week. Everyone has been up and down, but overall it has been a good work week. Students have been making GREAT progress in their reading...I have truly enjoyed the reader response writing they have been doing. Some of the comments and even predictions they are making about their books are interesting. Descriptive language and attention to detail have both increased in leaps and bounds!

Next week will be a full week! Monday through Friday we are here...we lost our three day weekend with the last minute snowstorm that wiped out roads for a day. I imagine for some, this is a slight blessing...if you were taking off work to be home. We will use the day for our normal quizzes and assessments, but this will also be our Gutter Grand Prix.

The students have spent spare minutes throughout the past week constructing their Lego racers. For those familiar with the scouts Pinewood Derby...it's very similar, but with my own twist on the idea. They have been given parameters and constraints that will limit their car size, but design is quite the open concept. So far most have at least constructed a basic model...but now they are deliberating over how to increase weight without exceeding length, width, and height restrictions. There have also been several attempts to negotiate adjustments to the parameters set by me...and simply put the answer is "NO".

This will be a fun race...but that isn't actually the assignment. Each student is expected to not only create their racer, but assess its gravitational potential energy. They have access to a digital scale and I have provided a simplified gravity constant (9.81). All units are measured in metric units. The outcome should be a rough PE value that will be recorded on a statistics sheet for each car...along with the car's name, the driver, and three views of the car. The assignment is the paperwork...the race is all about fun. The brackets will have everyone race at least twice...and then a narrowing of the field down to the final two. The question (that I hope they will eventually ask) is whether the car with the greatest PE value will be the winner. So, paperwork and a hypothesis for me...what they will remember...the race...que sera sera...

Have a great weekend!!

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Mr. Brantley

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Spelling List # 27

Spelling List

PRETEST on Monday,
Friday Test...study study study!!!

1. careful

2. beautiful

3. wonderful

4. really

5. finally

6. sadness

7. happiness

8. helpful

9. graceful

10. sadly

11. lively

12. happily

13. kindness

14. sickness

15. forgetful

16. lonely

17. easily

18. greediness

Name: _____ Date: _____

Vocabulary Sentences #27

- Write ONE sentence for each vocabulary word...you may need to look these words up to find their meaning...

*justice, task, prey, shallow, strands, social, spiral, reels,
elaborate, inventive*