

**Crestwood
Elementary
School**

Mrs. Gariepy's 2nd Grade Newsletter

Happy
St. Patrick's
Day!

**March 14th
2016**



Synthesizing Research Projects

I am SO proud of the hard work my students put into completing their first ever research projects last week! Students worked with a partner to select their research topic. Then, they documented their background knowledge and new learning throughout their research. Some students used books, others magazines, and a few even interviewed an expert. After they synthesized all they learned before, during, and after their projects, students created a poster and a google slideshow to share their learning to teach the class. Their presentations were today and they all did a wonderful job! I will be hanging up these posters in my classroom, but feel free to check out the google slideshow under my "reading/literacy" tab on my website. I am sure your child will be excited to share all that they learned!

Social Studies:

Rockford Historical Time Lines

Your child should have brought home a Rockford historical time line last week, pointing out some of the key dates in Rockford's history. Ask your child to share the timeline of events with you at home in preparation for our field trip in May! We will be pausing on our Rockford unit for now to focus more of our efforts on our current science unit.

Math: Unit 7 Test Tomorrow

Tomorrow your child will be taking their unit 7 math test. Concepts to review include:

- Measuring to the nearest inch and centimeter
- Selecting appropriate tools and units when measuring objects and distances
- Estimating measurements and selecting appropriate reference items for estimating
- Filling in missing numbers in a number model
- Creating a line plot

You can find the link to a jeopardy review game on my class website under the math tab—unit 7 math review.

A Note About Empty Bowls

Empty Bowls is our first annual Service Learning Project at Crestwood that involves **kids helping kids**. The students are making bowls in art class that will serve as a metaphor for hunger, poverty and homelessness in our area. An important piece of a

service learning project are the lessons that align with our curriculum. Students will be looking into real world issues and solving problems using real world situations, all the while focusing on kids helping kids. The event is culminated with a pasta meal served on April 21st. During this time, the student bowls will be available to purchase. The money earned from both the bowl sales and the donation for pasta dinner will be given to Kids Food Basket. I hope this helps you understand Empty Bowls event! Please join us at the dinner! We're preparing to serve hundreds of you!



Science Activities

We are currently working on our Earth's Land and Water science unit. Last week we focused on what happens when rain falls and/or snow melts on the top of a mountain. We learned that when rain falls, it becomes runoff or groundwater. Then, the runoff flows to become streams which dump into rivers, then lakes, and eventually all water flows downhill and most of it ends up in the ocean. We also talked about how melting snow on the top of the mountain becomes runoff and also can erode mountains as it flows downhill. This week we will focus on the following driving question: *What happens when rain falls on flat land?*

Poetry Structures

Last week we took a look at some new poetry structures and tried out some of these on our own. You can look at the different structures we learned about under my writing tab on my website OR you can have your child show you a few sample poems under the writing tab in their Schoology account.



Important Dates

- **March 17th—Wear GREEN!**
- **March 18th—Wear your words**
- **March 22nd - Empty Bowls Dinner**
- **NO SCHOOL April 1st—8th**
 - **April 11th—LATE START**
- **May 11th—2nd Grade field trip to downtown Rockford!**