



Mrs. Hartzell

Summer is the fastest and busiest season, yet I cherish each minute of it as I spend valuable time with my children (Jake finished his freshman year at Pitt. Emma is a senior at West) and I have the opportunity to prepare for the upcoming year we will fifth grade! I look forward to working with you and your family as we explore the fifth-grade curriculum together.

Each summer, we spend a lot of time on different day trips. We read each day, write letters and messages to family members, and create as many memories as possible. Just before we return to school, we will be heading to the beach.

Read the information below to find out what you will be learning in fifth grade and other important information about our school year together! Enjoy every second of your summer! I will see you soon!

Love,

Mrs. Hartzell

Social Studies

Here are some of the terrific topics that we will study in social studies:

~Economics ~Geography ~States ~Regions of the Country ~History of the United States

Science

Here are some of the great topics that we will study in science:

~Weather ~Nature's Recyclers ~Energy

Reading

•Whole Group Reading

Students will have direct instruction on a strategy or skill. The strategy-based lessons are designed to improve comprehension.

• Read Aloud

This is the vehicle used for introducing, reinforcing, and practicing our reading strategies. Learners will practice meaningful and accountable talk with classmates. By actively listening to reading and taking part in partner and classroom discussions, students will have opportunities to discuss, debate, and think about the same text. Learners will have opportunities to think about the elements of a story by getting involved with interactive strategies including classroom and group discussions.

•Independent Reading

Students self-select appropriate reading materials, which enhances their literacy development. Linking the Read Aloud to Independent Reading will be note taking (specifically notes to encourage "talk" and document thinking).

•Small Groups

Readers will work with the teacher in small groups to identify areas of student focus and monitor for comprehension.

Math

Have you heard that you will be learning multiplication of fractions this year? You will also be learning about triangular numbers. Some other fifth grade topics are locating part of a coordinate plane, converting linear measurements, and applying concepts of volume. With all those tools you will learn how to solve real life problems!

Writing

Our classroom follows a Writing Workshop approach. During our writing block, we break the time into the following sessions:

Mini Lesson •Writing and Conferring •Sharing

Students explore the 5 domains of writing; content, focus, organization, style, and conventions through mini lessons and then apply them in their writing to create strong writing pieces. They will write in various modes of Narrative, Opinion, Fiction, Memoirs, Informational/Explanatory, and Poetry. We will place emphasis on mentor texts for ideas and will capture our "seed ideas" in our Writer's Notebooks. Additionally, we will integrate spelling into our writing.