



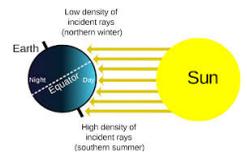
Home-School Connection #14

12.18.14

Write thought provoking questions for at least 4 of the topics.

POETRY RECITAL: Congratulations. You worked hard on writing, editing and reciting your heartfelt poetry. Public speaking is an important skill to learn. Why do you think that is? Reading a poem out loud is particularly important because each word counts. What did you try to do to help your audience enjoy and understand your poem? Many people (adults too) find public speaking stressful. Why do you think that is? Ask your parents if they have had to talk in front of people before. How did it go for them? There is a Ted Talk about building confidence through posture. You can watch it now or in school later. http://www.ted.com/talks/amy_cuddy_your_body_language_shapes_who_you_are?language=en

WINTER SOLSTICE: Winter officially begins in the Northern Hemisphere this Sunday, December 21, 2014. This is also called the Winter Solstice. We read a book about the solstice and talked about the reasons for the seasons. Below are two links that might help. <http://safeshare.tv/w/hHLnnVeUzk> <http://viewpure.com/000-3JYMONI> If the sun is out, we will measure our shadows. You measured your shadows during the fall equinox. What difference do you think there would be in the length of the shadows between the fall and winter. Why do you say that? What was the result? _____ (might need to fill in later if cloudy).



MURDER OF CROWS: We finished the crow movie. You saw how hard it was for a young crow to make it into adulthood. You also learned that crows mate for life unless their mate dies and they appear to mourn for their dead. The movie also showed the only crow that survived in John Marzluff's experiment, did make a warning call when it spotted him in the mask. This helped to prove that the young are taught by their parents and appear to remember the lessons learned. You also heard that crows will not only hide their food but pretend to hide their food to trick their flock. We compared crows to toddlers in their brain development. What can crows do that little children can't? If you want to watch some or all of the movie again, you can go to this site.

<http://viewpure.com/s472GjblKQ4>

SOCK DRAWERS OF MEMORIES: We discussed, how memories are like socks because they seem to appear and disappear in unpredictable ways. You are going to see if there common types of memories people have and why that is. Next week, you will pick one of the memories and write a snap-shot memoir of it. Ask your parents about their memories from 2014 and what types of moments they remember more clearly than others and why that might be.



Home-School Connection #14

12.18.14

BOWLS of GOALS: You are also going to make some goals for yourself as you launch 2015. Your goals will have to be some kind of habit you hope to change. You are going to pick something you can measure or prove you worked on. Discuss the difference between measurable and non-measurable goals. Ask your parents if they have a goal or habit they want to start or stop and how they could measure and/or prove they worked on it.

TUESDAY NEWSDAY: This Tuesday, the new Mayor of Boston and others met with Olympic Officials to try and convince them to hold the 2024 Olympics (10 years from now), in Boston. There is another group, called, "No Olympics in Boston." who have opposing views. I (Ms. Stark) was mostly against it until I heard some people explaining the reasons for it. Ask your parents whether they would or wouldn't want the olympics in Boston and why. What do you think?

OTHER:

- > **COLONIAL VILLAGE:** We've begun to think about what a colonial village will need to be a community rather than just houses on land? What do you think?
- > **RIVER TABLE:** We're are also thinking about how to divide the river table up into places for 5 families and a common area. How might we do that? This process includes the multiplication and division of fractions.
- > **LIBRARY:** O'Henry's story, "Gift of a Magi". This story is used to explain 'irony'. Have your parents read it?
- > **SNAPSHOT FRACTION:** You had a little check in on Edmodo, Do you like that way of checking in?
- > **SPECIALS:** Chinese, Art Music, P.E, Recess, C.O.B.

What did you discuss? _____

Due: TUESDAY: We made a time to do this on:_____ Parent Signature & Comments:

Student Rating (1-5) Please say why and which topics lead to the most in-depth discussions.



Home-School Connection #14

12.18.14