

INTRO: WHY ARE YOU GETTING THE HOME/SCHOOL CONNECTION?



*Note: Home/School Connections are written in 2nd person. Meaning, they're written TO YOU (5th graders).

IT'S FOR YOU: The Home/School Connection is a way for YOU to think about interesting, challenging, or fun parts of the week. Research has **PROVEN** you will understand and remember information better if you explain it to someone else.

IT'S FOR YOUR PARENTS: When some parents ask how school is going, they hear words like, "Fine", "Okay", "We had recess", or worst of all..."Nothing". The Home/School Connection is a way for parents to stay informed while having an interesting conversation with you and YOU get to rethink what you have been thinking about and learn more about your parents. So, it's great all around. As the year goes on, you will become better able to give supporting details and a real flavor for what has been happening in our 5th grade class. If you read, what I just wrote, underline the word flavor.

WHEN IS IT HANDED OUT WHEN IS IT DUE? Usually you will get the HSC on Thursdays and it's due on Mondays. This is so you can be homework free over the weekend or you can have more time over the weekend to get it done in a relaxed manner. You must make an appointment with a parent (not babysitter) to do this. In other words, you cannot expect a parent to sit with you as soon as you are ready. It must be a mutually good time. I highly suggest you don't wait until Sunday evening when everyone is trying to get ready for the up and coming week.

1st Home/School Connection

Thursday, September 8, 2016



DIRECTIONS- PAGE 1

- DURING SCHOOL: Read and discuss the HSC with a classmate or teacher. Notice the first page has longer descriptions. Please discuss all four (4) of the questions on the first page.
 - The 2nd page has 9 topics. Discuss at least 3 of them. More is fine.
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☐ GETTING TO KNOW YOUR NEW CLASSROOM: What do you like about our room?

What makes it cozy or a good place to learn? Perhaps talk about the couch, trail chairs, rivertable, rocking chairs or our lamps. Ask your parents what kind of lighting they prefer. Explain who Tabitha, Reggie, Betty, Hubert, Glen, and Fred are. Explain the wolf/elephant posters such as: what can you understand if there are no words? Do you think the environment you're in affects the work you do? Ask your parents if they feel they work better in some places rather than others.

☐ MEETING: Why do you think we have a headline story and meetings? Show your parent the attached list of jobs and describe some of them. We haven't learned about all of them yet. Ask your parents about different jobs they have had in their life. Which ones were better than others and why?

☐ TEAMS/POINTS: We are going to study birds this year. That is why your current teams are named by different bird groups. Who is on your team? What's it called? Here is an African proverb: "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." How does this quote connect to why you sit in teams? Ask your parents about how collaboration (working with others) has made a difference in their work or other parts of their life.

☐ IF YOU WERE IN MY SHOES: You are creating a poster about what it is like to be in your shoes. Getting in someone else's shoes is called EMPATHY. It means feeling what someone else is going through. Why do you think it is important for other people in our class to know what it's like to be in your shoes, and why do you think you should know about them? You had to brainstorm ideas such as what makes you grumpy or what makes you feel better. Some of you wrote about things you wish for or feel good about. Ask your parents how they would answer those questions or other ones you thought about.



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Discuss at least 4 of the items below: ✓ the ones you discuss.

- ☐ **GOOGLE CLASSROOM:** You are now a member of our 5SP Google Classroom. We will share ideas, questions, photos, and other good links there.
- ☐ **LAWS:** As we begin to learn about U.S. History and our Constitution, we thought about the following: What are laws? Why do we have them? Who makes them? Who enforces them? What laws have changed (like cigarette smoking in public places) and what laws might change?
- ☐ **FIELD TRIP MATH -** On the first day of school we had a field trip to the field! We were estimating the length and width of the Driscoll field. We also estimated the length of our classroom and the length of our class line if we lay down from head to toe. You are learning strategies for estimating. You are learning to use different tools and your surroundings.
- ☐ **SMOOTS-** You heard about Oliver Smoots and the MIT prank. You can find more on our Google Classroom or webpage.
- ☐ **EXERCISE-** We exercise each day to avoid meetingitis. You can choose between planks, situps, push ups, and jumping jacks.
- ☐ **SQUIDS WILL BE SQUIDS/QUESTIONS:** We read this funny book of fables and discussed different types of questions. Describe the book. You learned some codes for questions. RS, D/W. VW,? Huh, and A? Do you remember them?
- ☐ **BOYA:** Beginning of Year Math Assessment
- ☐ **SPECIALS:** What's going on in your specials? Music, Art, P.E., C.O.B. (chorus, orchestra, band)?
- ☐ **SOMETHING ELSE?** What didn't I mention that you would like to talk about?

Due: Monday . We made a time to sit and do the HSC together on_____

Parent Signature: _____ Comments:

Student rating of how it went: 1-5 (5=best). Why did you rate it like that? What topic(s) lead to the most discussion?