

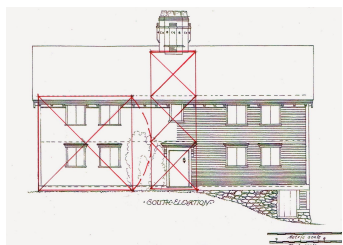
Home-School Connection #25

4/13/17



WHAT'S YOUR WORK? The new 5S, "What's Your Work?" has begun. It is a new series I am trying out - where we invite someone who does something connected to what we do or might do in school. So far we have had two guests.

ARCHITECTURE AND THE RIVER TABLE: Our first guest was Rohan's mom Sadhna Brown.



She is an architect and she came in to tell us about what architecture is, why she became an architect, and how we can use those skills to help build our river table colonial houses. You learned that architects combine science, art and engineering/design. You learned about how architects have to consider the environment they are in as they build. You looked at how houses were designed in the 1700's. You saw how they had a huge fireplace in the middle and smaller windows. Most of their

windows were on the southern side of the home. Describe other features of colonial homes. Then describe the plans you and your family are creating. Discuss the SCALE of the home $\frac{1}{4}$ square = 1 square foot. Share what you have done for a site plan, a bird's eye floor plan and a structure plan. Later you will design the exterior and the interior.

TAXES AND PUBLIC FINANCE: Our second guest was Rob Hillman, Katherine's dad. He helps governments decide how to best use tax dollars for public projects. He helped us understand that there are big projects and small projects that states and cities want to fund. Some of these things can cost a lot of money. So, they have to borrow money from a bank in order to pay for it. They have to decide how much money to borrow and what they are going to use the money for. You had to pretend you were Mr. Hillman and you had \$100.00 and three choices of where to spend the money. I have attached the worksheet. The three choices were fixing a bridge, building more room in a school so they wouldn't have to get rid of their art room, and fixing the MBTA. Discuss what you and your friends chose and why. Ask your parents how they would allocate the funds.

MIDNIGHT RIDE OF PAUL REVERE: I just read that taxes are due this year on April 18th! That's interesting because that is the same date as the "Midnight Ride" poem written by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. It is also called the Landlord's Tale. I don't remember why. I have attached the poem to Google Classroom in case you want to read it with your family. If not, just describe what you like about the poem or what the poem focuses on. I have also attached the information describing what was true and not true in the poem.

<http://www.paul-revere-heritage.com/myths-and-facts.html>



APRIL MORNING: This week we also watched a historical fiction “telemovie” called April Morning. It’s about the fateful 18th of April of 75, the day the American Revolution started. Describe what was fact and what was fiction about the movie. What did the movie help you understand that the Pearson textbook or poem did not? Do you think it matters who shot the first shot? Why? Why do you think that shot is called, ‘The Shot Heard Round The World?’ If you were in the position of Adam’s father and/or Adam’s mother, what would you have done?

BIRD SANCTUARY/EARTH DAY: When you come back from vacation we will focus more on our bird sanctuary and protecting the environment. Over the break is earth day. If you can read the latest TFK and think about something you would like to learn more about and do before the end of the year. I want to launch our KEEP blue and green program. KEEP stands for Kids Expect Environmental Protection. Over vacation, please work on some of your bird identification skills. Try to learn at least one new bird call and if you want, *keep* watching our EAGLES. They are growing and growing and learning and learning. They are being homeschooled in their nest.

MATH FRACTIONS: We have been working on multiplying and dividing fractions. You are not only learning how to do the multiplication and division, you are learning how to write and solve word problems that match them. I have added more sites to our class website and to google classroom if you want to practice over vacation.

SCIENCE: Science vocabulary, transparent, translucent, opaque, energy sticks... ?:

SPECIALS: Art, P.E. Music, Chinese... describe what you have been up to...

SOMETHING ELSE? Up and coming field trips, farm school, Monday Muse Spots, Wednesday, how do you show respect when you enter or leave for the day? Other items? You choose:

Due: Monday after vacation.

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.