

# Home-School Connection #9

## 11.6.14

Please write at least 2 discussion questions

**TUESDAY NEWSDAY- WHALE DEBATE:** In March of 2014, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) ordered Japan to stop hunting whales. This month, Japan is giving a proposal explaining why whale hunts are necessary for science research. Please show your parents the article and the sheet you filled in. If they were on the ICJ, what would they say to Japan? What would you say? What do you think will happen?



The Tale of a Whale Debate

**ANIMALS, ANIMALS:** This week you began to turn your animal classification research into an educational poster about the class of animal you are studying. What have you found out that you never knew before? What are some questions you still have? What part of the poster are you working on? What else will other teammates put on the poster? What have you had to learn about teamwork in order to get your poster off to a good start?

**THE RESULTS ARE IN:** Discuss what you wanted and what happened?

|   |                                |  |
|---|--------------------------------|--|
| Who will be our next governor?  | Your choice?<br>Parent choice? | Who won?<br>Charlie Baker  |
| Ballot Question 2-<br>Should there be a requirement to add deposits on all forms of bottled drinks?       | Your choice?<br>Parent choice? | Results: No (only sodas/beer cans) that already have the deposit will continue- No new deposits. |
| Ballot Question 3- Should the state repeal (take away) the law that now allows gambling in Massachusetts? | Your choice?<br>Parent choice? | Results: No- They can keep building the new casinos in Massachusetts                             |

Discuss with your parents what they think about the results. Are they happy, disappointed, hopeful, worried? Discuss why voting is so important. Only 36.6 percent of US citizens voted. Talk about why that might be?



**MATH:** Chapter 3- We are digging into positive integers (whole numbers above 0) and finding out their interesting character traits. We are looking at Factors, Multiples, Square Numbers, Primes, Composites, perfect numbers and... (see next page).

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"Happy" numbers (Jiashu's Web-nes-day research). Soon, you will use this information to create a project about your classroom number. Right now, what can you say about it? Is it prime, composite, or square? What are its factors? Speaking of factors, you are learning how to break a number into all its prime factors. You did this by making factor trees. Share how it works. Can you think of numbers that have more prime factors than others and why that is?



**Dream Space:** Your Dream Spaces are coming along - Some of you are going to draw them to scale. Many of you have started to add furniture or your compass rose and other details. What cardinal directions do your rooms face? How about in your own home? What direction is your bedroom or kitchen? Ask your parents if they could turn your home around in any direction which way would they have the rooms in your house face?

**18 Words for Self-Evaluation:** Soon you will approach a new task. You will fill in a Self-Evaluation Form for parent conferences. There are words in the form I thought you might not yet know well, so prior to this new routine, I decided a good transition would be for you to elaborate on what these words mean. After that you used your inventiveness for something called **Words In Action**. How did this go for you? Describe what you did. Did you achieve a satisfactory outcome? What kind of feedback do you have for this process? I hope in the future when I provide you with new words, you will accept them with eagerness. And if you find the process difficult, I hope you will persevere. Try to talk for a bit using some of these words. Try it with the next topic.

**BREATHING AND HEART RATE:** This week, we have been paying more attention to breathing and heart rates. You are learning how to take your pulse after you have been resting and then after exercise. Talk to your parents about what your BPM (beats per minute) are after a meeting, and then again after exercise.

**Something else?** P.E, Chinese, Music, COB, Library, Art, Web-nes-day Projects, Scribblers, .  
What did you talk about? \_\_\_\_\_

Due: Monday: 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.