

ROCKFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES



Bobbi Hume



A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Bobbi A. Anderson-Hume, Ph.D.

Even though we are a middle school, we have recess every day, for every kid. I believe in recess. Adults should have recess; 17 minutes in the middle of the work day to shoot some hoops and work out the kinks of sitting all morning or just to sit in the shade and rest your eyes (as my mom liked to say).

It's a reset and a chance to renew and refocus for the afternoon, which in my opinion is the toughest part of the day. *For me, it's 2PM. The last class of the day has started and everyone is snuggled in to learn. Lunches are over and cleaned up and it's a solid 45 minutes of learning until dismissal, buses, and after-school meetings, and I hit the wall of tiredness like a runaway train. When I am a senior citizen, I have a feeling 2PM will be my dinner time.*

We offer three kinds of recess here at RMS-CES, because kids need different things. Many, many of our boys, I mean kids, need to be outside if possible, and running around as much as possible (if we could somehow harness the energy of middle schoolers...). It is mostly boys, boys in jerseys.

Sidenote: thank goodness there is such a thing that allows our kids to wear jerseys!

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Continued

Thank you to every coach and conductor, every adult who drives to practices and tournaments and sits for hours in the stands, every sponsor that pays for costumes, t-shirts, and ice time. This organized activity is so important! There are girls out there in the mix too, needing to run that energy off before the last two hours of the day. I love to see them out there showing the boys how it's done! My dream is to build a gigantic obstacle course on the top of the hill for the kids to jump on, hang from, race through, bump into, climb up, and sit on. Can you see it? It's Rocket themed, so it's sleek and fast and strong, and cool enough for middle schoolers. It would also serve as a great fitness resource for our physical education classes, give us more activity for milder winter days, and less, "Oh yeah, I forgot it was two-hand-touch."



RMS-CES students also have the option to stay in the cafeteria. We have some students who prefer to eat slowly and chat with their friends through their recess. The cafeteria is also a great place for students who are working together on something and need time and space to get together where volume isn't an issue. Some students are comfortable just to stay and hang out or play on their personal electronics.



Middle school students also have the opportunity each day at recess to go to our Media Center where there are a bunch of cool options!

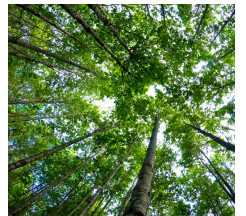
Many students settle into a comfortable chair and read quietly. A loud and busy recess is exactly opposite of what some of our students need, instead, these kids refresh with calm and quiet. Some students come in and take care of some last minute class work and others color or just sit quietly. The real draw in our Media Center, however, is our Makerspace. Students can come in and create, tinker, build, or whatever else they want and need to do. Our Lego wall is a popular spot, the creations projecting out from the wall get bigger and more intricate and interesting as each lunch shift passes.



We have awesome new-fangled building planks and old-school Lincoln logs. Students have been building cool ramps for marbles to race down while others design structures with colorful geometric flakes.

As with everything we do, recess is personal and individual. Middle school is the time of our lives where we really begin to figure out who we are and what we are going to be about. Our job as educators of this unique age group is to expose them to as much good stuff as we can and see what sticks. Even during recess!

Have a great weekend!



b
Dr. Bobbi Anderson-Hume
RMS-CES Principal

RMS-CES PARENT/COMMUNITY NEWS



Reminders & Opportunities:

Publicity Photographs

Throughout the year, photographs and videos are taken in classrooms and at school activities. Some of these may be published in local newspapers, on the local cable station or in Rockford Area Schools' publications and websites. Parents may request that their child's photograph and identifying their name not be published in district productions or websites. The request must be made in writing and sent to the **Rockford Area Schools District Office, at 6051 Ash Street, Rockford, MN 55373.** (This does not apply to pictures of school events taken by the news media.)

There's all kinds of items hanging out in our lost & found...have your student take a peek!



Contact Annie Mickelburg in our District Office



PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND A WATER BOTTLE TO SCHOOL WITH YOUR STUDENT

MONDAY



School Name: Rockford Middle School

Picture Day Date: Monday, October 4

Picture Day ID: EVT3BF99H
Click [HERE](#) to Order Online

October 4th is PICTURE DAY!

RMS-CES PARENT/COMMUNITY NEWS



Reminders & Opportunities:



A message from the nurse regarding COVID notification:

As we get back into the swing of things and spend more time together, there are going to be cases of COVID, especially with the Delta variant making its way through. In order to not inundate you with emails, we will not be sending a general notification letter to an entire grade level after every positive case of COVID. We will be alerting you if your child is a close contact of a positive case of COVID. Please be vigilant in monitoring your child for symptoms and keep them home if any present.

- 2021-2022 Pandemic-EBT Benefits for Families: Please click [HERE](#) to find information about Free/Reduced Lunch for your student.
- 2021-2022 District Calendar click [HERE](#)
- The Minnesota Department of Revenue has two tax relief programs for families with children in kindergarten through 12th grade: the K-12 Education Subtraction and the K-12. Please click [HERE](#) to view the programs & benefits.



Wright County
MINNESOTA

Truancy Resources

Wright 2 School

Excused vs. Unexcused Absences

Excused Absences:

Family emergency

Illness/Medical or mental health
appointments

(documentation may be required)

Religious holidays

Unexcused Absences:

Babysitting

Working

Needed at home

Child is not immunized

Car trouble

Missing the bus

Oversleeping

Weather

Habitual truant means a child under the age of 17 years who is absent from attendance at school without lawful excuse for seven full school days. If the child is in elementary school for one or more class periods on seven school days. If the child is in middle school, junior high school, or high school, or the child is 17 years old and has not lawfully withdrawn from school.

Truancy and Educational
Neglect Intervention
Program

Please click [HERE](#) to view Truancy Brochure

RMS-CES PARENT/COMMUNITY NEWS

Reminders & Opportunities:



EVERY MEAL
FIGHTING CHILD HUNGER

Please click on the link below to fill our registration!

Every Meal Weekend Food Registration RAS

Beyond physical development, good food improves academics, behavior, attendance, and even self-esteem.

At Every Meal, we say food is good if it meets three categories: Nutritious, Delicious, and Relevant.

Nutritious: Our staff dietitian works to ensure all of our bag types meet current nutrition standards for children and youth as outlined by the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs.

Delicious: We taste test the food we buy for our food bags. Taste also includes sight and smell. For each item we provide, we make sure it looks, smells, and tastes delicious.

Relevant: What good is dried rice if you don't have access to a kitchen to cook it? What good is mac and cheese if you're an immigrant and have never seen it before? What good are pork and beans if your religion forbids eating pork? We offer five food bag options with a variety menus designed to be relevant for the different children and families we serve.



Contact Madison Holm at
6125670114 or at
holmm@rockford.k12.mn.us
with any questions

RMS-CES SPORTS NEWS



ROCKFORD AREA ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION JO VOLLEYBALL



www.raaasports.com/jo-volleyball

What:

Youth Night at the Rockford High School Volleyball game for Girls & Boys in Grades 3 – 8.

Bring your aspiring volleyball athlete to watch the Rockford High School volleyball team take on Litchfield and learn more about the sport and the RAAA JO Volleyball program. Registered RAAA Volleyball players from the 2020/21 season receive free admission to the games; parents need to purchase admission. Stop by the RAAA JO Volleyball table and learn more about our upcoming season and how to join a team!

When:

Tuesday, September 28th

Time:

5:30 pm – 9 pm

C-Team and JV games start at 5:30 pm; Varsity game starts 7 pm
Come for all the games or just what works with your schedule!

Where:

Rockford High School Gym

Questions:

raaajovolleyball@raaasports.com

“This is not an ISD #883 sponsored event”



RMS-CES SPORTS NEWS



This is not a ISD883 Sponsored Event

Fall Open House Event October 2nd, at 12:30 pm

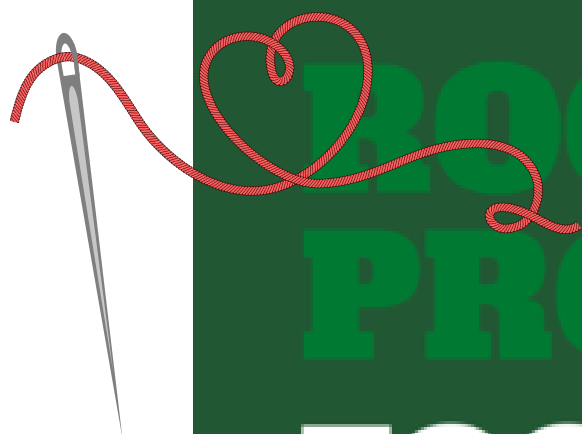
We will be holding a **free** softball intro event for members of the community to “Get Involved in Fastpitch” at 12:30 pm. High School and Rev players will help run a T-ball game for all 6/8U age kids who are interested in playing softball.

Here are some highlights for the event:

- **Pizza and refreshments will be provided**
- Raffles for bats, helmets and gloves
- **Meet and greet information with board members about available positions**

Sign up for this free event online by filling
visiting this link:

<https://forms.gle/62ZyrEfnR6yayCmW6>



ROCKFORD PROM

FOOTBALL T-SHIRT QUILT RAFFLE

TICKETS \$5 EACH
FOR SALE AT THIS
FRIDAY'S GAME AND
HOMECOMING GAME

WINNER ANNOUNCED AT
HOMECOMING GAME ON
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1ST

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO
WIN

This event not sponsored by Rockford Area Schools ISD 883



RMS-CES SPORTS NEWS



ROCKFORD YOUTH WRESTLING

**PreK-Kinder.
OR 1st Year Wrestlers**
Mondays
11/15-1/22
6:00– 6:45 pm

1st-2nd Grade OR 2nd Year Wrestler
Tues./Thur. 11/9 – 1/22
5:30– 6:15 pm

3rd-6th Grade OR 3rd Year Wrestler
Tues./Thur. 11/9 – 1/22
6:30– 8:00 pm

Why Should Kids Wrestle?

- There is room for everyone and wrestlers only compete against others in a similar skill/weight
- Wrestling builds intensity, footwork, agility, balance, strength & body awareness
- It is one of the few sports where a child's foot speed, ball-handling skills, hand-eye coordination, & size do not matter

Questions? Or join our 2-week FREE Intro
Class contact: raaawrestling@raaasports.com



Register online:

www.raaasports.com/raaawrestling

NOT an ISD 883 Sponsored Event

RMS-CES CLASS NEWS

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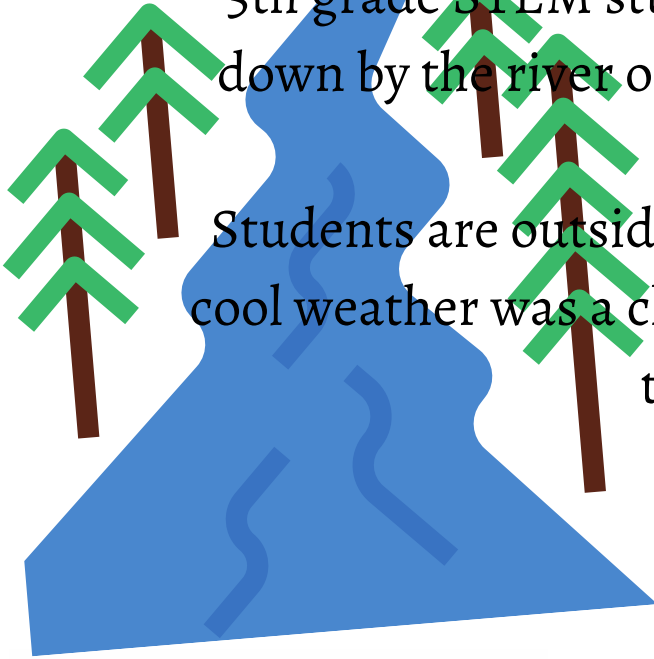
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STEM

5th grade STEM students created a sound map down by the river on Friday morning before the rain.

Students are outside for class every day, and the cool weather was a change from the previous days this week.



RMS-CES CLASS NEWS

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STEM



5th Graders have been outside this week practicing the skills they need to be a naturalist. Through observations, recording, and sharing their findings the students are developing a toolset that will lead them through their years at RMS-CES. A highlight this week was observing the wildlife on the birdfeeders in the school forest. In addition, the we have been paying close attention to the changes in weather. Did you know that, in Minnesota, we are currently losing about three minutes of daylight each day?



Fall is definitely upon us.



RMS-CES CLASS NEWS

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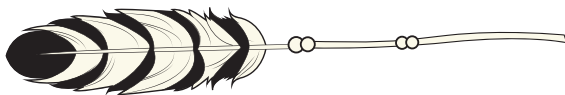
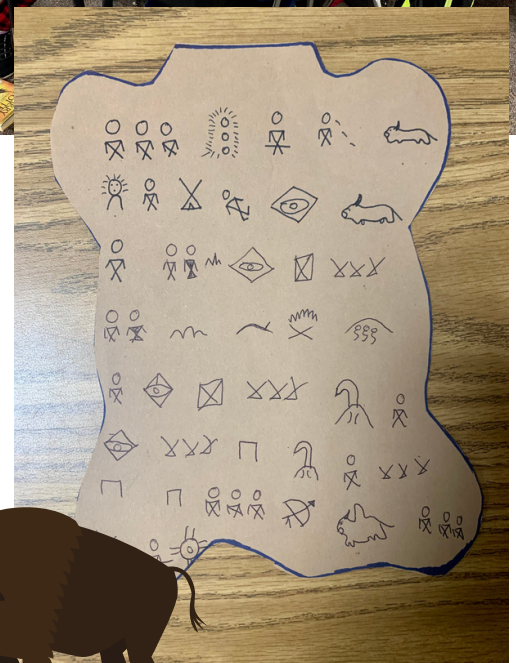
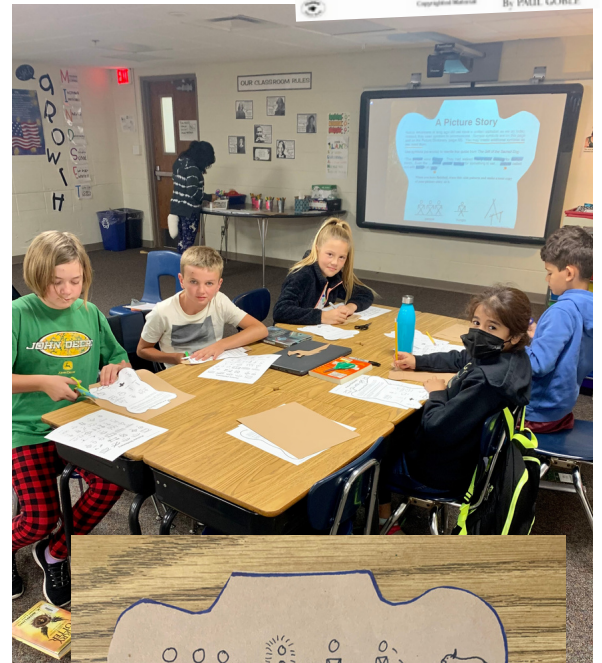
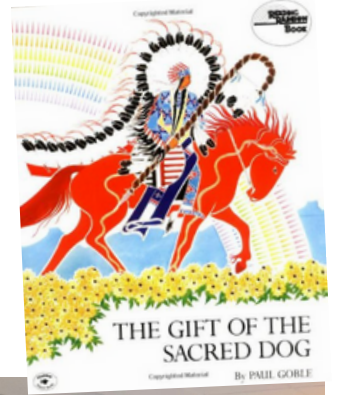
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Social Studies

*This week in 5th grade social studies, we began to examine each Native American region more in depth. We covered the Southwest, Plains, and the Pacific Northwest. On Wednesday, the students listened to the book, *The Gift of the Sacred Dog* by Paul Goble.*

They rewrote a quote from the book using picture symbols on a "buffalo hide."



RMS-CES CLASS NEWS

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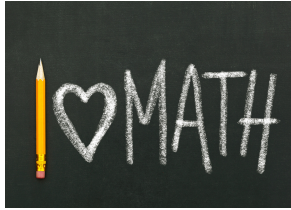
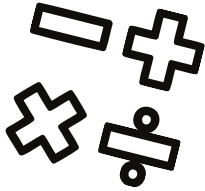
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Math



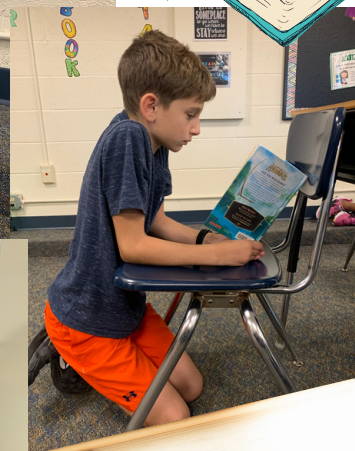
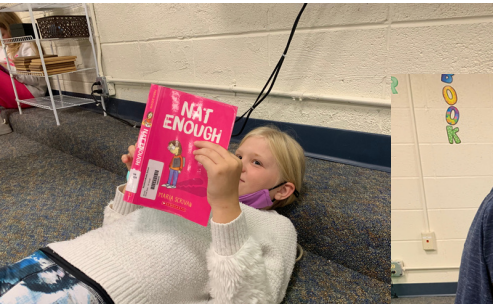
This week in math, students ordered and compared whole numbers and decimal numbers.

They reviewed how to write a fraction as a decimal and vice versa. Students completed a virtual place value scavenger hunt where they reviewed standard form, word form, and expanded form of numbers. Later in the week, 5th graders took their Math FAST Tests and ended their weeks reviewing addition and subtraction of whole numbers. Next week, students will get textbooks and we will start our first unit on decimal addition and subtraction.

Language Arts



5th grade readers were busy this past week showing what they know on the FAST Reading test. They also became familiar with their genre tally sheet that is a tracker of all the different genres they will be reading in this year towards their "Magic 40." Students also chose their book nooks (quiet places) in the classroom they will read in during read to self time, where they can focus on their reading and get lost in a book.



RMS-CES CLASS NEWS

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SCIENCE

THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE, FIFTH GRADERS LEARNED ABOUT THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF MAPS AND WHAT THEY SHOW. WE PRACTICED OUR CARDINAL DIRECTIONS OUTSIDE IN THE BEAUTIFUL FALL WEATHER. THEN, WE MADE A TOPOGRAPHIC MAP FROM A MODEL OF A MOUNTAIN AND TURNED THAT TOPOGRAPHIC MAP INTO A MOUNTAIN PROFILE.

WE ENDED THE WEEK WITH PHENOLOGY FRIDAY AND DISCUSSED WHY LEAVES CHANGE COLOR IN THE FALL AND MADE OBSERVATIONS ABOUT OUR DECIDUOUS TREES OUTSIDE!



RMS-CES CLASS NEWS

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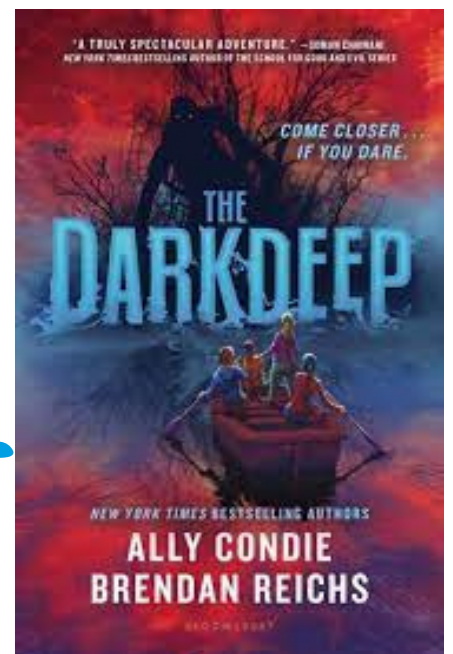
Language Arts



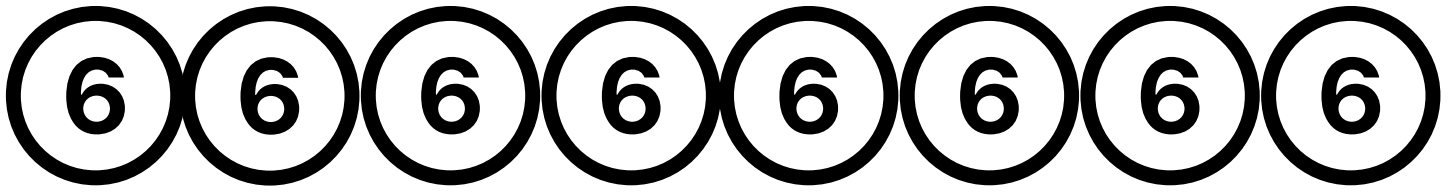
NAME TAG GLYPHS

DIRECTIONS: Read the statements below. Then color each section on your name tag according to your answer. When you're finished, color in your name however you choose!

#	STATEMENT	TRUE	FALSE
1.	I have a sibling.	Blue Polka Dots	Green Polka Dots
2.	I have a pet.	Pink Stripes	Purple Stripes
3.	I love to read.	Yellow	Orange
4.	I play a musical instrument.	Musical Notes	Zig Zags
5.	I play a sport.	Plus Signs	Minus Signs
6.	I can speak another language other than English.	Circles	Squares
7.	I prefer fall more than spring.	Leaves	Flowers
8.	I'm more of a morning person than a night person.	Suns	Moons
9.	I have lived in another town.	Check Marks	Small X's
10.	I am excited for this school year.	Hearts	Stars



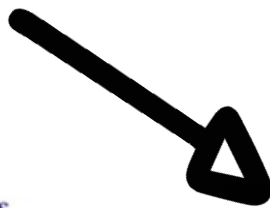
RMS-CES CLASS NEWS



Language Arts *continued*

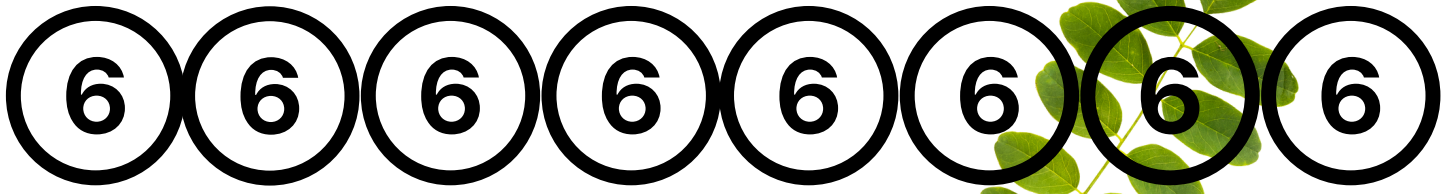


SIXTH GRADERS STARTED THEIR WEEK WITH THE FAST READING TEST. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK! STUDENTS ALSO CREATED NAME GLYPHS AFTER THEY EXPLORED DIFFERENT PARTS OF THEIR IDENTITY MUCH LIKE OUR PROTAGONIST, UNHEI, IN THE SHORT STORY. THIS WEEK'S BOOK TRAILER TUESDAY INTRODUCED STUDENTS TO THRILLER AND SUSPENSE GENRES WITH THE NOVEL THE DARK DEEP BY ALLIE CONDIE & BRENDAN REICHS. IT WAS A GREAT FIT WITH THE FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN THIS WEEK. MANY STUDENTS WERE INTERESTED IN CHECKING OUT THE CLASS COPY OF THE BOOK; I HOPE TO HAVE A SECOND COPY IN CIRCULATION SOON. SIXTH GRADERS ENDED THEIR WEEK WITH GUIDED NOTES AND DISCUSSED HOW TO USE EMAIL AS AN EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION TOOL WITH THEIR TEACHERS AND CLASSMATES.



REMINDER: PLEASE CONTINUE TO CHARGE CHROMEBOOKS AT HOME EACH NIGHT SO THERE IS A FULL CHARGE AT THE START OF EACH SCHOOL DAY

RMS-CES CLASS NEWS



Science

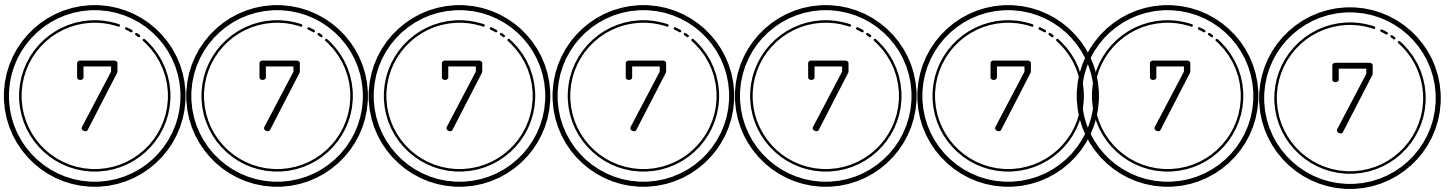
Students have been working to learn more about CER technique in science. ***CER stands for claim, evidence, and reasoning.*** Students had a few opportunities to practice using CER technique and ended last week examining our puzzle cubes, attempting to make a claim about what they thought was located on the bottom side of the cube. They were not allowed to touch or move the cube, but had to use the evidence provided on the other five sides to make their most reasonable claim. It was both a fun and frustrating activity!

This week, we spent time starting to look at data. Students created a leaf glyph containing information about themselves and then created questions that they could answer using the data found on the glyphs.

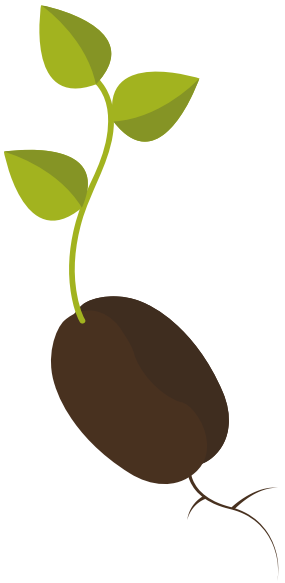
They graphed the data and used the info they collected to answer their initial questions.



RMS-CES CLASS NEWS

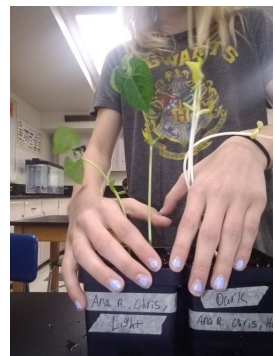


Science

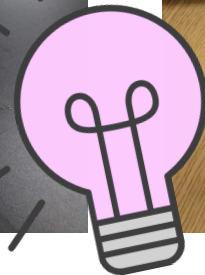
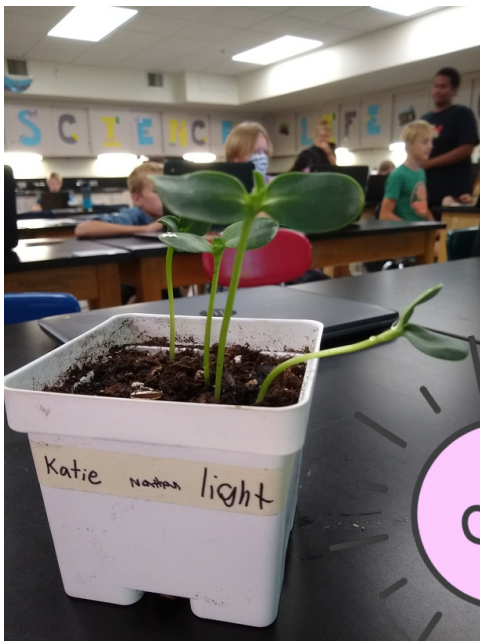


Wow!

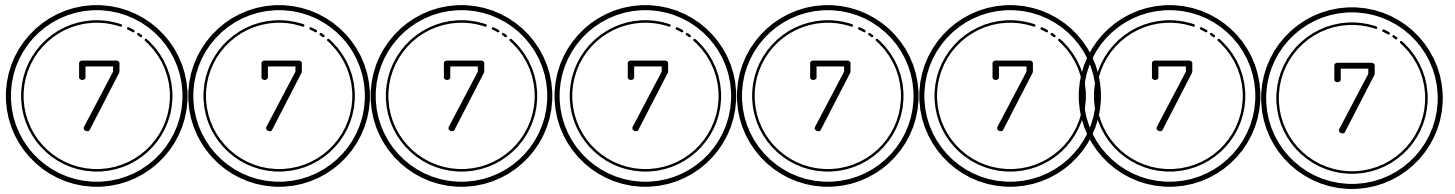
A huge surprise this week!
White/yellow plants grew in
the darkness and taller green
plants in the light. It appears
the light variable has a *big*
impact on plant growth!



More to come...

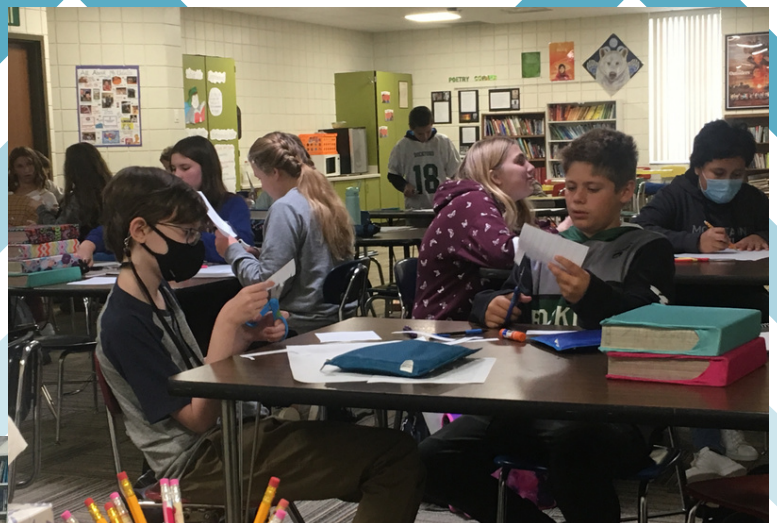


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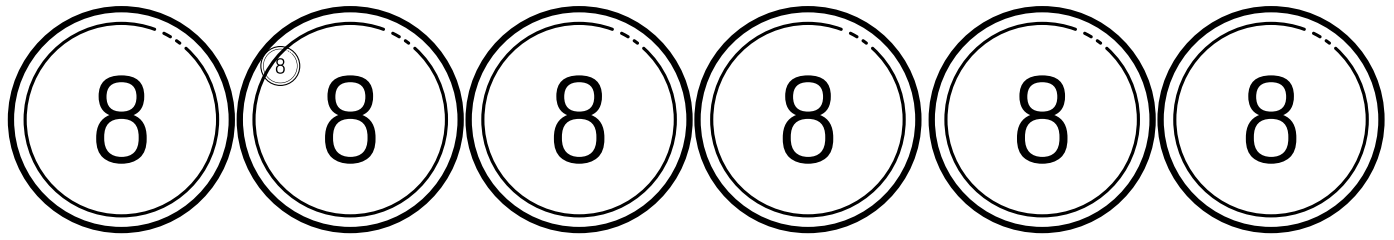


Language Arts

Seventh graders are off to a wonderful start in Language Arts. This week we focused on plot and conflict. Students used a variety of picture books to plot on a plot diagram. They then discussed how the setting and conflict affect the plot. This practice is used to prepare us for our upcoming short story unit.



RMS-CES CLASS NEWS

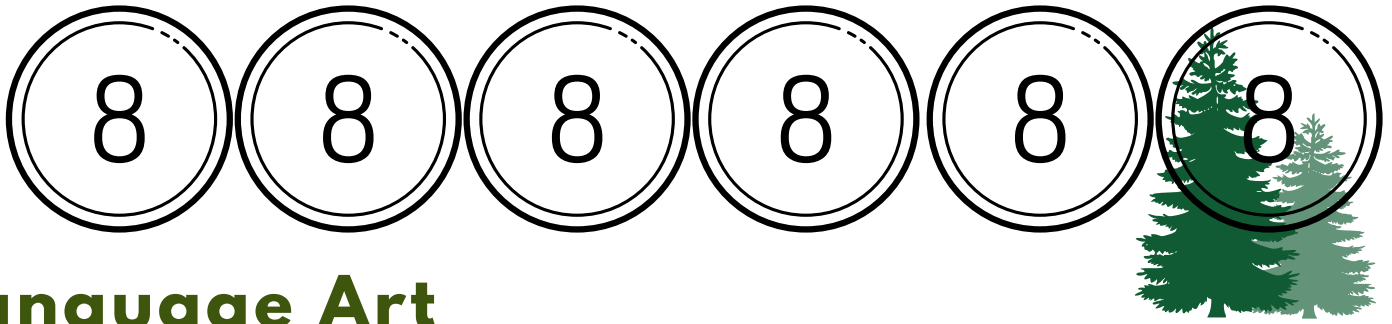


Physical Education



Both 7th and 8th grade physical education classes have taken advantage of this fall football weather

RMS-CES CLASS NEWS

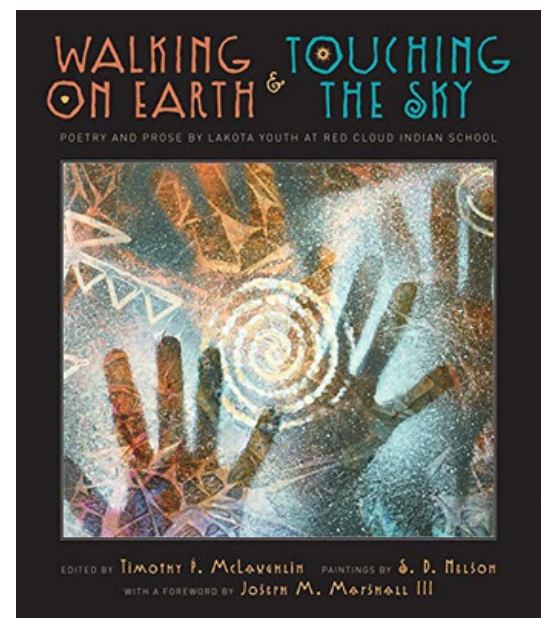
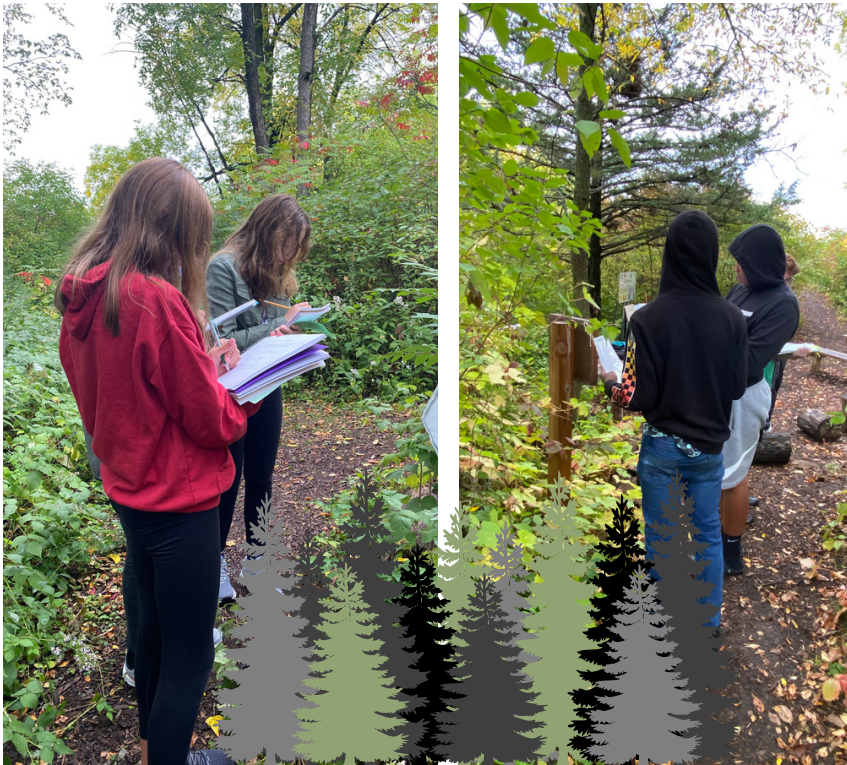


Language Art

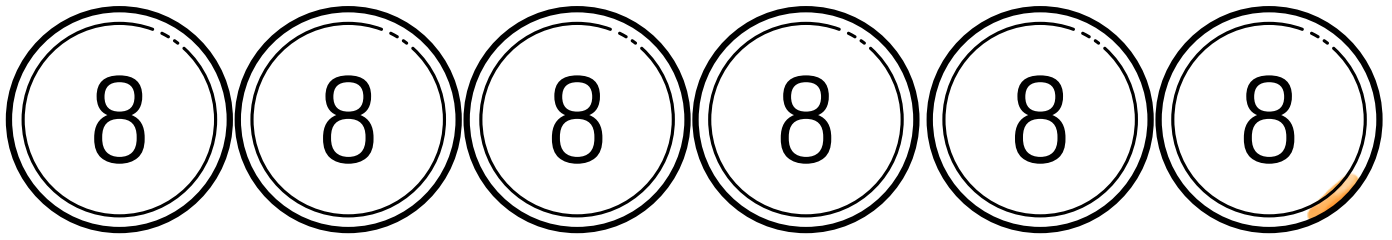
Last week in LA8, we studied the Oglala Lakota culture, which also helped us gain a better perspective on how Native Americans value Nature. The 5th – 8th grade writers who contributed to the book, *Walking on Earth & Touching the Sky*, attend the Red Cloud Indian School on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota and have written about their relationships with Unci Maka, Grandmother Earth.

Last Friday, we headed up the hill and worked through a “Poetry in the Forest” activity. Rotating through different stations, students read and analyzed a selection of poems from the book.

Next, they will let their inner poet shine as they write a Haiku based on their observations from the forest.



RMS-CES CLASS NEWS

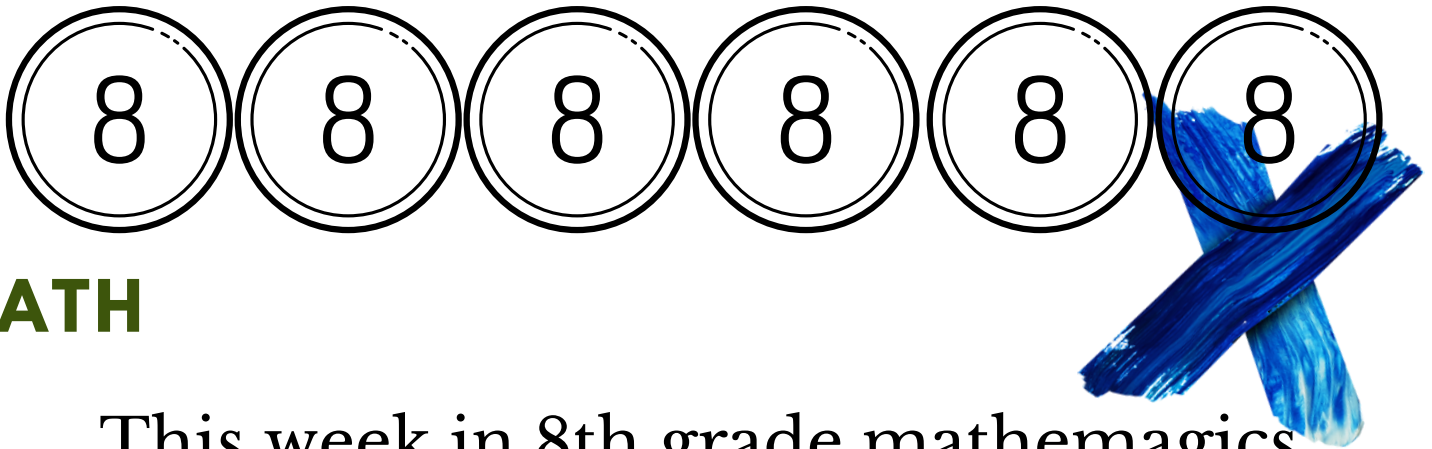


Global Studies

This week in Global Studies students reviewed and practiced basic map reading skills that they have learned in previous years. This practice will lead towards the students creating an accurate map of the school forest next week. As part of the project students will be required to show what they have learned about basic map reading tools. On Friday, students participated in their first Friday Current Events lesson, which will be a part of curriculum throughout the year on Fridays. Students started by taking a self-assessment on their ability to identify fact versus fiction in the media.




RMS-CES CLASS NEWS



MATH

This week in 8th grade mathemagics students solved one-step equations and did their FASTrackMath testing. Solving equations uses the concept of inverse operations.

Students will take a quiz on this next week.



MM Solve the following equations to find x :

1 $x + 5 = 14$ <div>- 5</div> <div>- 5</div> $x = 9$	2 $x - 6 = 17$ <div>+ 6</div> <div>+ 6</div> $x = 23$
3 $8x = 32$ <div>$\div 8$</div> <div>$\div 8$</div> $x = 4$	4 $\frac{x}{3} = 6$ <div>$\times 3$</div> <div>$\times 3$</div> $x = 18$

© Maths with Mum

RMS-CES CLASS NEWS

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Agri-Science

Agri-Science students have been digging deeper into our career unit. This week we focused on career field interests, practiced proper email etiquette, and also learned how to tie a tie! We continue with our ag literacy book, *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*. In chapters one through five, we've learned that life can be very different in South Africa including their climate, culture, foods, and agricultural methods.

