



Wyoming Primary Schools

Elm • Hilltop • Vermont

Dear WPS Families,

As we head into the winter break, I wanted to take a moment to highlight another key tool that we use to grow confident, capable readers here at Wyoming Primary Schools. This week, I will share information about our core literacy curriculum, McGraw Hill Wonders.

At Wyoming Primary Schools, the McGraw Hill Wonders curriculum is used as the core literacy program to provide a comprehensive approach to reading and language arts instruction. This program is designed to meet the diverse needs of K-4 students while fostering strong foundational skills in reading, writing, vocabulary, and comprehension.

Key Reasons for Using McGraw Hill Wonders:

1. Comprehensive Literacy Instruction:

- Wonders offers a well-rounded literacy curriculum that integrates reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. This comprehensive approach ensures that students develop the full spectrum of literacy abilities needed for academic success.

2. Emphasis on Vocabulary Development:

- **Building a Rich Vocabulary:** Vocabulary development is a central focus of the Wonders program. Each unit introduces and reinforces key vocabulary words, helping students expand their language knowledge. A strong vocabulary is crucial for reading comprehension, and Wonders provides explicit instruction and practice opportunities to help students understand and use new words effectively in both oral and written language.

3. Writing About Reading:

- **Critical Thinking and Comprehension:** Wonders emphasizes the importance of writing about reading, encouraging students to engage deeply with the texts they read. By writing responses, summaries, and analyses of what they read, students develop critical thinking skills and a deeper understanding of the material. This practice also strengthens their ability to articulate their thoughts clearly and cohesively, which is essential for effective communication.

4. Differentiated Instruction:

- **Meeting Diverse Needs:** Wonders is designed to support differentiated instruction, allowing teachers to tailor lessons to the varying abilities and learning styles of their students. This flexibility ensures that all students, regardless of their starting point, can progress and succeed in their literacy development.

5. Integration of Technology:

- **Engaging Digital Resources:** Wonders includes a variety of digital resources that enhance instruction and engage students in interactive learning experiences. These resources support both in-class and remote learning, providing students with additional opportunities to practice and reinforce their literacy skills.

6. Alignment with Standards:

- **Consistency with Educational Goals:** Wonders is aligned with state and national literacy standards, ensuring that the instruction provided at Wyoming Primary Schools meets the expected benchmarks for student learning. This alignment helps prepare students for standardized assessments and future academic challenges.

8. Support for Writing Instruction:

- **Developing Strong Writers:** Wonders places a strong emphasis on writing instruction, guiding students through the writing process from brainstorming to final drafts. The program helps students develop various writing skills, including narrative, informative, and opinion writing, ensuring they become proficient writers capable of expressing their ideas clearly and effectively.

The use of McGraw Hill Wonders at Wyoming Primary Schools provides students literacy instruction that emphasizes vocabulary development and writing about reading. This approach not only strengthens students' reading comprehension and writing skills but also fosters critical thinking and a deep engagement with texts, preparing them for long-term academic success.

As we approach the holiday season, we want to wish all of our Wyoming Primary School families a joyful and restful holiday break filled with special moments and cherished memories. Thank you for your continued partnership and support throughout this school year. Please remember that Monday, January 6th, is a professional development day for our staff, and there will be no school for students. We look forward to welcoming our students back to school on Tuesday, January 7th, refreshed and ready for an exciting second half of the school year!

Happy Holidays,

Dr. Gina Kirchner

Principal, Wyoming Primary Schools

Counselor Corner

The holiday season can be a time of great joy and celebration, but it can also be a stressful and lonely time. Here are some tips for navigating the winter break from Mindpeace Cincinnati:

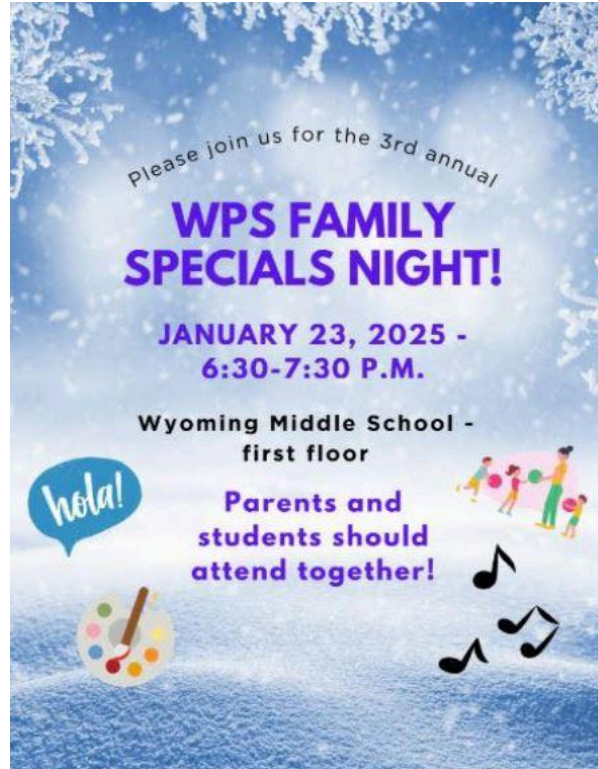
- Help your child understand the importance of giving back to the community often by brightening someone else's day, your day is also naturally brightened!
- Make laughter a priority. Individuals who laugh often tend to be more cheerful, have higher self-esteem, and are more likely to develop close social relationships. Humor can also help us defuse stressful experiences by putting life into perspective.
- Get moving. Exercise is an awesome stress buster! Make it a goal to get moving with your child at least 20-30 minutes each day.
- Encourage sleep routines. Sleep allows our bodies to repair, refresh and prepare for the coming day. School-aged children should get 10-11 hours of sleep each night.
- Help create resiliency. Visit [Virtual MindPeace Rooms](#), which were launched to help children and young adults decompress and practice social-emotional and resiliency skills. Rooms include videos, activities, and even apps.

InView Score Reports

Second and Fourth-Grade Families: Due to an unexpected processing error, InView score reports for your students have been delayed. We apologize for this inconvenience. The reports will be sent home in your child's Thursday folder when we return from winter break. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

Save the Date! Family Specials Night

Mark your calendars for our third, annual Family Specials Night on Thursday, January 23rd from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Wyoming Middle School. At this event, WPS families and their students will participate in fun activities connected to P.E., Music, Spanish, and Art with our amazing specials teachers! We hope to see you there!



Upcoming Dates

- **Winter Break - No School** - December 23 - January 3
- **Professional Development Day - No School for Students** - January 6th
- **School Resumes** - Tuesday, January 7th
- **Family Specials Night** - Thursday, January 23rd - 6:30-7:30 at Wyoming Middle School

[View the full WCS calendar here.](#)

News from Around Wyoming

[Click here for more Events and Information from around WCS & the community](#), including:

- Finance (& Facilities*) Friday!
- Upcoming Events
- 3rd Annual Family Education Day Hosted by 1N5

Photos from the Week

Click [HERE](#) to view photos from the week at WPS!

