

Welcome Back Knollwood

...And out of the Knollwood classroom flies a beautiful butterfly.

August 2009

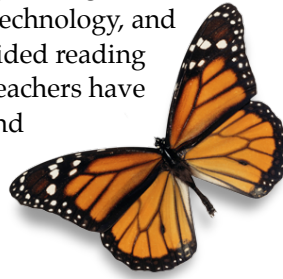
Update #1

Tips for Butterfly Gardeners

Butterfly gardening requires planning a garden that attracts, retains, and encourages growth of butterflies. Selection of a variety of nectar-producing plants that are colorful and bloom throughout the season is pertinent for continuous visits from butterflies. For successful butterfly gardening, gardeners will want to provide food for more than the butterflies. Food must also be provided for the caterpillars that feed on green foliage, rich in the nutritional content needed to become strong adult butterflies.

Knollwood Teachers are Butterfly Gardeners

During the first days of school, teachers have been collaborating, planning, and creating lessons that will attract students to the content to be learned. Even on the first day of school, teachers had students working in cooperative groups, using manipulatives and technology, and rotating through guided reading and math lessons. Teachers have selected materials and methods of delivery based on the instructional needs of the students.



Knollwood's Butterfly Gardeners are Appreciated

Knollwood teachers, you are butterfly gardeners and you are appreciated.

You have:

- 1) created inviting classrooms to welcome your students.
- 2) chosen to teach your students how guided reading and guided math works during the first few days of school.
- 3) started using learning centers and manipulatives.
- 4) established expectations of excellence.

Thank you for what you do.

Curriculum Foci 2009

RSS MISSION:

to develop globally competitive schools that inspire, challenge, and empower students to meet high academic standards, lead ethical lives, and demonstrate knowledgeable, responsible citizenship in an increasingly challenging world.

Guided Reading

During this school year, guided reading is still a focus for reading instruction. Guided reading should consist of grouping strategies that allow for differentiated and small group instruction. Instruction should be rigorous, with an explicit understanding of the skills or strategies to be taught and mastered. Students that are not in the guided group should be working in centers that focus on specific skills and strategies. During independent reading, consider using reading response journals as a way for students to share their understandings.

Copies of center activities from the Florida Center for Reading Research are available in Room 110. They focus on grade level skills in the areas of Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Fluency, Vocabulary, and Comprehension. Other resources can be found on Kellee's Edgate Reading page.

Guided Math

Guided Math is really looking good in the classrooms! Manipulatives are out and being used to foster a greater understanding of mathematics. Students are discussing their discoveries in the first week of school. That's great!

As we continue with guided math, it is important that high expectations are expected. It is also important that math journals are used with special emphasis on the students using the content vocabulary to explain mathematical understandings.

Writing Workshop

Writing workshop is still a focus for our students. As you work through the Units

of Study, continue to use the Writing Workshop format and stay focused on the growth that you want your students to show at the end of the school year. Your daily writing will surely produce significant writing growth.

Keep in mind that 4th grade students have to write content area exercises for the NC writing assessment. It is important that all students write in the content areas throughout the school year. Not only does it help their writing, but it will also help with the reading of expository text. Students should write about math, science, social studies, art, music, physical education, dance, and even health.

Components of All Foci

- Data to drive instruction
- Differentiated Instruction
- Cooperative Groups
- Guided Groups
- RIGOR, relevance, and relationships
- SIOP strategies
- Vocabulary Instruction
- On-going and authentic assessments

Knollwood Resources

Staff Development Trailer Room 110

D.A.T.A. Wall (to come)

Math Checkout

Materials

- math scales and balances
- weighted numbers
- NC Superstars (higher order thinking activities)
- Strategies and Indicators

Textbooks

- math adoptions
- reading adoptions
- teacher manuals
- Science Leveled Library
- test preparation materials

Professional Books

- Strategies that Work
- SIOP
- Writing Workshop support books
- Van De Walle's math support K-3 and 3-5
- flip charts

- Guided Reading Books (Fountas and Pinnell)
- Phonics Lessons (Fountas and Pinnell)

Kellee Watkins Edgate Page

Guided Reading Page
Florida Center for Reading Research
Weblink for Centers

- Phonics
- Phonemic Awareness
- Fluency
- Vocabulary
- Comprehension

Santa Maria Bonita Public Schools

- Reading Adoption support materials
- Center Activities
- Weblinks

Guided Reading Handouts and Printables

Guided Math Page

- Blackline Masters for Number Sense
- Promethean Board Activity Links
- National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
- Promethean Board Activities
- Lesson Plans (categorized: Number and Operations, Algebra, Geometry, etc.)
- Field Trip Pages
- Curriculum Updates

Teachers' Workroom

Leveled Book and Novel Sets (each grade level has a shelf)

Science Closet

- Beakers
- Testing Tubes
- Trays
- Measurement Instruments

Rowan Salisbury Schools Elementary Education Department Webpage

Mathematics

- Mathematics Pacing Guide
 - EnVision Math Link
 - Strategies and Indicators
 - Math Decks
 - Sample EOG test items
- ### Reading
- Reading Pacing Guide
 - Sample EOG test items
 - Reading support information

Writing

- Writing Pacing Guide
- Lucy Calkins Link
- Great Grammar Adventure Lessons
- Literature Links Lessons
- 4th grade writing: content and on-demand writing.

Grade Level

NC Manipulative Kits
Van De Walle's

Teaching Student Centered Mathematics

Fountas and Pinnell's Guided Reading and Guiding Readers and Writers.

Pavelka's Guided Reading Management

EnVision Mathematics manipulatives, cds, and online resources

SIOP books
Instruction for All Tools for Teaching Content Literacy



Lesson Plan Information

The lesson plan templates are located on your thumb drive. The lesson plan folder contains 5 templates.

Pages

The first template is the *Pages* template. This template can only be opened in Pages. It cannot be typed on without changing the original format.

NeoOffice

NeoOffice has two templates. One reads, "Lesson Plan Template NeoOffice". This document DOES NOT allow you to add information without changing the original document. However, "Lesson Plan Template NeoOffice FORM" provides a gray box that allows you to type in a box that will expand according to how much you type. This form will allow you to type without changing the original document.

If you complete a lesson in NeoOffice at school, you can send the document via e-mail to your home computer. However, when you open the document in Word or another program, it will be slightly modified because it is a different program.

NeoOffice Documents can be saved as PDF files to be emailed without the possibility of being edited. However, they will be able to be viewed and shared.

Microsoft Word

Word has two templates. The one that reads, "Lesson Plan Template Word FORM" allows you to type in the gray boxes that expand to meet your needs without altering the original document. If a word document is typed on a personal computer, it can be opened in NeoOffice.

When you download the Word document from an e-mail or you want

to open a Word document from your thumb drive, DO NOT double click on the document. Double clicking will force the document to open in a program called "Text Edit" and this will change the orientation of the document. Instead, single click the document to highlight it. Once it is highlighted, click on FILE, then select OPEN WITH. Options will appear, select NeoOffice. You will be able to view, edit, and print at school.

Other Programs

Other programs may or may not open the different templates. If they do open, the templates may not maintain formatting and may shift contents. If I can help you in any way, please let me (Kellee) know and I will assist you.

Don't get discouraged. As you continue to use the different electronic programs, the smoother the use will become.