



CURRICULUM UPDATE



UPCOMING EVENTS

PIEDMONT PLAYERS

Second and third grade students will be going to see Aladdin Jr. at Meroney Theater. Websites that offer pre and post activities include:

http://www.thechildrenstheatre.com/onstage/2007_aladdin_sg.html

<http://www.childrenstheatre.org/2006/aladdin.html>

The documents from these sites will be given to the grade level chairpersons. Kellee, Dawn, and Brenda are available to help make this experience "IMPACT-like". The infusion of math, science, social studies, music, art, technology, and even physical education is possible.

PEP TRAINING 3-5

October 2nd @ 2:45, room 110

ASSISTANTS' TRAINING

September 29th at 10:00 or

September 30th at 1:00

WRITING WORKSHOP: UNIT 2

K-2 Teachers: September 30th

Fifth Grade Teachers: Please provide me a time to complete your training.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

September 15th - October 15th

Ideas will be provided.

Language Arts

Writing Workshop

Writing Workshop should be well underway. Training for Grades K-2 & 5 will be provided next week. Please bring the Units 1 and 2 books and student samples from Unit 1 with you to the training session.

Grades 3 and 4 will receive training at a later date. However, if materials, information, or explanations are needed, please ask.

Keep in mind that most learning during Writing Workshop takes place during the conferencing. Conferencing is the key. During the conferences, make reference to the current mini-lesson and all past mini-lessons (as appropriate) to spiral learning.

Continue to emphasize the expectations for Writing Workshop.

- partnering and sharing
- what to do when finished
- conferencing
- adding details

Guided Reading

During reading, continue asking higher order thinking questions as identified by Marzano's Levels of Thinking. Use data to identify the areas that will help students grow. Also, use the data to differentiate instruction to meet the individual needs of the students.

ClassScape is now available and will allow for the collection of data.

During guided reading, make use of the leveled libraries and science readers. Another resource that can be used is the Time For Kids kits. These resources can be an excellent way to attack reading and writing objectives in the content areas.

Note: Writing is an active process of creation, discovery, reflection, and reinforcement. Writing in the content areas helps students to learn and construct knowledge: to acquire, synthesize, and analyze information as they make sense of key ideas. Writing is also a key element in representing knowledge.

www.literacymatters.org

Field Trip Activities

Remember to provide students with pre-activities and post-activities for all field trips. Pre-activities will help students focus on what they will learn during the experience. Post-activities will allow students to synthesize the information learned during the experience.

A writing activity should be incorporated into every field trip. The language arts pacing guide provides possible writing assignments (Writing Workshop) for each experience.

Feel free to expand the field trip experience by using the IMPACT model. Technology and media can be incorporated in the learning process. There are open times and sign-up sheets in the library and in the computer lab (and cows) to allow you to experience IMPACT.

Use your imagination, experience, and excitement to promote active and engaging learning experiences. Integrate SIOP strategies to enhance instruction and language learning for all students.

Once field trip activities are complete, please provide Kellee with student samples, lesson plans, pictures, or other artifacts to be displayed or shared with others. Thank you for making every moment a meaningful teaching moment.



What is Mathematics?

Mathematics in the Classroom

North Carolina law requires the use of manipulatives in the teaching of mathematics. Mathematics can be defined as the science of numbers and their operations, interrelations, combinations, generalizations, and abstractions and of space configurations and their structure, measurement, transformations, and generalizations ([Merriam-Webster Online](#)). The use of manipulatives is an excellent way to demonstrate the understanding of the concepts identified in the definition.

North Carolina Manipulative Kits

The North Carolina Manipulative Kits were specifically created for the objectives identified in the Standard Course of Study. Every kit contains the resources needed to help students make abstract concepts more concrete.

Week by Week Essentials, Strategies and Indicators

Each teacher has been provided a set of Week By Week Essentials, Strategies, and Indicators. These materials were created by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction to meet the needs in the NCSCOS (North Carolina Standard Course of Study). They include blackline masters, parent letters, directions, and supply lists.

The activities in these resources mirror strategies for last year's math training sessions and this year's upcoming math training sessions. They also provide insight into assessment expectations. The Rowan-Salisbury Pacing Guide provides a timeline for when these activities should be happening in the classroom.

ClassScape

ClassScape is up and running. We will use ClassScape again this year to provide instructional information (data). The ClassScape assessment is developed to measure the objectives as they are required on the Rowan Salisbury Pacing Guides. It is important to follow the pacing guides.

K-2 Assessment

We had a DRA Assessment training this week that provided wonderful information. Mrs. Creech gave us a detailed understanding of the DRA requirements. If there are any questions about DRA's, correct marking, scoring, or administering the assessment, please ask me (Kellee). I will provide guidance and I will act like a kindergartner, 1st grader, or 2nd grader as needed. It is important that we are accurate and consistent in administering the assessment. After all, this is the information that will inform our instructional decisions.

Assessment/Writing Folders and Yellow Cards

Kindergarten teachers have been provided the writing folders and yellow high frequency word assessment cards. Information about the correct usage of the folders and cards at a later date. In the meanwhile, it is important to use the "What to do When" flip chart as your guide.

Please pay special attention to when you are asked to use pencil (yellow card), black pen, or green pen. On the yellow card, please use **checks** only when a child has demonstrated the ability to **read and write** the word. No 3-5 writing folders will be issued until a later date.

KNOLLIPEDIA

Aladdin Jr. is a one-act, seven-scene theatre musical adapted from the animated Disney film Aladdin. The play is a part of the Broadway Junior Collection by Music Theatre International. (www.wikipedia.org)

Essential Questions:

1. causes genuine and relevant inquiry into the big ideas and core content;
2. provokes deep thought, lively discussion, sustained inquiry, and new understanding as well as more questions;
3. requires students to consider alternatives, weigh evidence, support their ideas, and justify their answers;
4. stimulates vital, on-going rethinking of big ideas, assumptions, and prior lessons;
5. sparks meaningful connections with prior learning and personal experiences;
6. naturally recurs, creating opportunities for transfer to other situations and subjects. (www.authenticeducation.org)

Marzano's Knowledge: students should learn the focusing, information-gathering, and remembering skills that allow them to gain declarative and procedural knowledge.

(<http://www.learnnc.org/lp/pages/780>)

Marzano's Organizing: Techniques such as comparing, classifying, ordering, and representing allow students to develop skill in organizing information. (<http://www.learnnc.org/lp/pages/780>)

Marzano's Applying: based on an individual's ability to apply previous learning to a new or a novel situation without having to be shown how to use it. (<http://www.ceap.wcu.edu/Houghton/learner/Think94/NCmarzanoThink.html>)

Hispanic Heritage Month

September 15 - October 15

Seacula quarta decima et quinta, muta tionem consuetudium lectorum Mirum est, fiant sollemnes in futurum. Typi qui nunc nobis parum?

http://www.history.com/classroom/hhm/HHM_home_c.html

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Phasellus sit amet turpis eget urna tempus porttitor. Ut sed lacus. Nullam varius rhoncus felis. Suspendisse euismod risus non urna. Aliquam vitae pupis egestas. Sed lacinia. Aenean eu arcu. Quinta decima Eodem modo typi. Mirum est notare quam litte.

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, set eiusmod tempor incididunt et labore et dolore magna aliquam. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exerc. Irure dolor in reprehend incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua?

Suspendisse lacus mauris, tincidunt ac, sollicitudin vel, volutpat id, augue. Proin enim. Praesent dictum, tellus sit amet posuere iaculis, enim risus rhoncus tellus, quis elem entum tortor mi at augue. Proin t vehicula.

Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse molestaie cillum?

Neque pecun modut est neque nonor et imper ned libidig met, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed ut labore et dolore magna aliquam is nostrud exercitation.

Consuetudium lectorum Mirum est notare quam littera gothica quam nunc putamus parum?

Neque pecun modut est neque nonor et imper ned libidig met, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed ut labore et dolore magna aliquam is nostrud exercitation ullammmo do con Ut wisi enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exerci tation ullamcorper suscipit lobortis nisl ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis autem vel eum iriure dolor in hendrerit in vulputate velit esse molestie consequat, vel illum dolore eu feugiat nulla facilisis at vero eros et.

Resource Websites: