

Classroom Connection

Room 203 – Mrs. Barlow and Miss Meyer

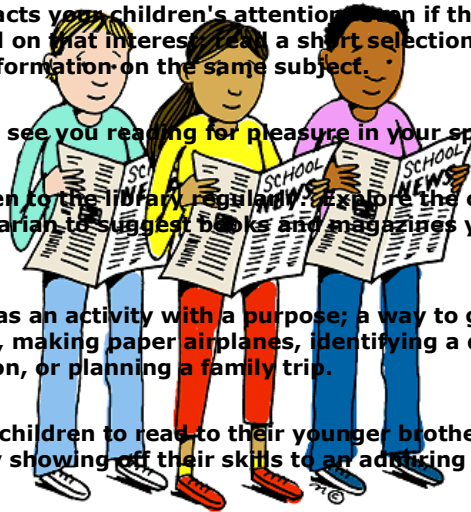
January 24, 2011 to January 28, 2011

Tips for Parents:

10 Ways to Motivate Your Child to Read

The following are some ways to turn a young reader's reluctance into enthusiasm:

1. Scout for things your children might like to read. Use their interests and hobbies as starting points.
2. Leave all sorts of reading materials including books, magazines, and colorful catalogs in conspicuous places around your home.
3. Notice what attracts your children's attention, even if they only look at the pictures. Then build on that interest, read a short selection aloud, or simply bring home more information on the same subject.
4. Let your children see you reading for pleasure in your spare time.
5. Take your children to the library regularly to explore the children's section together. Ask a librarian to suggest books and magazines your children might enjoy.
6. Present reading as an activity with a purpose; a way to gather useful information for, say, making paper airplanes, identifying a doll or stamp in your child's collection, or planning a family trip.
7. Encourage older children to read to their younger brothers and sisters. Older children enjoy showing off their skills to an admiring audience.
8. Play games that are reading-related. Check your closet for spelling games played with letter tiles or dice, or board games that require players to read spaces, cards, and directions.
9. Perhaps over dinner, while you're running errands, or in another informal setting, share your reactions to things you read, and encourage your children to do likewise.
10. Set aside a regular time for reading in your family, independent of schoolwork, the 20 minutes before lights out, just after dinner, or whatever fits into your household schedule. As little as 10 minutes of free reading a day can help improve your child's skills and habits.



Weekly Reminders...

- Pinnacle Charter School's Book Fair begins Monday, January 24th. Students may **(but are not required to)** bring in money to buy books of their choice! This is a GREAT way to encourage reading at home!
- Don't forget to be recording your minutes of reading for the Book – It program! Reading and recording 220 minutes by the end of January will get you a coupon for a free Personal Pan Pizza at Pizza Hut!!!



Full article can be found on:
http://www.education.com/reference/article/Ref_20_Ways_Parents/

Communications

We will be working on the following skills this week for our communications block:

Phonics – ar (arm); or (for)

Spelling (by group) –

- **Red and Yellow:** are, far, for, sore, sort
- **Black:** warm, Mars, smart, fort, sport
- **Blue and Purple:** forest, portray, starting, parcel, market

Grammar – subject

Comprehension Skill – inference

Vocabulary – **portray** (verb): to make a picture of or act out

parcel (noun): a package; something wrapped up;

market (noun): a place where things are sold; **landmark**

(noun): an object that stands out and identifies an area

Writing – voice

Math

Unit 5: Place Value in Whole Numbers and Decimals

Whole Number Examples

0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, etc.

Decimal Examples

0.1, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, etc.

- Place value through ten thousands
- Reading, writing, and ordering numbers
- Place value to millions

Review – Ballpark estimates

Facts – 3s (3x1, 3x2, 3x3) etc.

Essential Questions

1. How do living things in and around an ecosystem interact with one another and the environment?

SCIENCE - Ecosystems

Students will be able to answer the following questions by the end of the week:

1. What is an ecosystem?
2. What is a biome?
3. List the six ecosystems.

