



KEEP
CALM
AND
HOOT
ON

a WES me news




May 29, 2015

PLEASE obey OUR RULES

At
Whiton,
we are
learning
to...

- Take care of ourselves.
- Take care of our friends.
- Take care of our school.

owl Be Watchful



From the Desks of Ms. Gensel & Mrs. Shober

- It's hard to believe that the school year is almost over already! The students have learned so much this year and we are all so proud of them.
- Dates to Remember:
 - 6/3 – 3rd Grade Move-Up Day
 - 6/4 – BEF Barnes & Noble Night – please come out and support the BEF
 - 6/5 – 3rd Grade Carnival
 - 6/8 – 2nd & 3rd Grade Field Day (raindate 6/9)
 - 6/11 – 3rd Grade Salad Extravaganza
 - 6/15 – 3rd Grade Field Trip
 - 6/16-6/19 – Student Single Sessions
 - 6/19 – Last Day of School

Parent Pick-Up Safety

- Please drive on the RIGHT side of the road
- Please be careful when pulling out of parking spaces, as children are small and cannot be seen well
- Children need to walk with their parents at all times





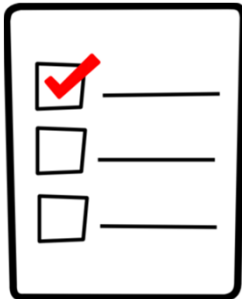
Fun Ways to Keep Writing Skills "Sharp" This Summer
From Mrs. Boyle
WES Literacy Coach



Keep a journal to record what you did on a special trip or vacation!



Instead of calling for a play date, write an email to your friend (or his/her mom or dad) persuading your friend to come over.



Make a list of things you'd like to do this summer and cross them off as you do them!

Write a review of a place you went, game you played, book you read, or movie you saw.

Hang it up in the neighborhood so others might find out about it!



Do some research on a place that you plan to visit or an animal/ object you might see when you go and report back to your family to get them ready for the trip!

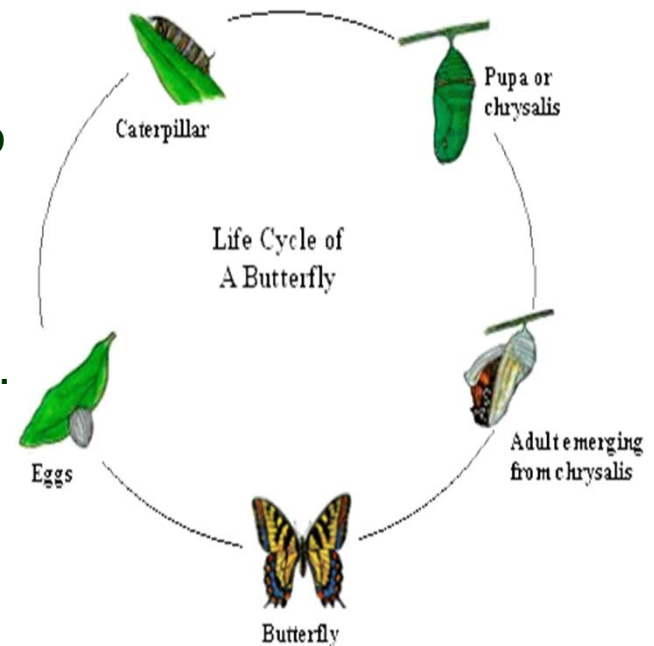




Life Cycle of a Butterfly



- Mrs. Trubin's class along with the entire second grade are enjoying studying the life cycle of a butterfly. A few weeks back, our caterpillars arrived. After they arrived, our class fed mallow to their caterpillars and have been closely observing their growth. The students are keeping track of what they notice and how they are changing daily in the four stages of the life cycle in a daily journal. Yesterday a majority of our caterpillars went into the chrysalis stage. We were so amazed to see how quickly they transformed. As of today, there are two caterpillars still wiggling around. This is a fascinating experience for the students as it is a hands-on project. We are all anxiously awaiting the final stage of our butterflies and look forward to releasing them.





Use Technology for Summer Learning



Summer is coming! Does that mean that learning should stop? No! There are many fun ways that your child can practice skills over the summer. I know that there are many workbooks out there, but why not let them do what they love? Games! Since most of our children are motivated by games on the iPad and computer, take advantage of that.

There are so many apps and websites that reinforce skills through interactive games.

Start with an easy game (Easy or Level 1) and then gradually increase the difficulty to build confidence and skills.

Many of the games are also available as apps for the iPads.

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- Here is a short list of math games. Some of these sights have Language Arts games, too.
- **Great Math Websites:**
- <http://www.abcya.com/search.htm?>
- <http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/math.htm>
- Sum Dog: <http://www.sumdog.com>
-
- **Addition:**
- Marble Math Addition: <http://www.abcya.com/addition.htm> (starts with simple problems)
- Marble Drop: http://www.abcya.com/marble_drop_addition.htm
- Fact Monster Math Flashcard
- [http://www.factmonster.com/math/flashcard.html?op\[0\]=addition&level=1](http://www.factmonster.com/math/flashcard.html?op[0]=addition&level=1)
- Quick Flash II: <http://www.multiplication.com/games/play/quick-flash-addition> (TIMED)
-
- **Subtraction:**
- Balloon Pop Subtraction: http://www.abcya.com/subtraction_game.htm
-
- **Multiplication:** (list of many links to activities)
- http://www.helpingwithmath.com/printables/others/fac0201fact_triangle01.htm
-
- **Word Problems:**
- Word Problems with Manipulatives: http://www.abcya.com/kindergarten_word_problems_add_subtract.htm (various levels)
- Post Sorting Word Problems: <http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Flash.aspx?f=postsortingwordproblem>
- Grand Slam: <http://www.mathplayground.com/gsmbegin.html>
- Pirate Word Problems: <http://www.math4childrenplus.com/addition-word-problems-classroom-pirate-game/>
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Apps for the iPad or iPhone:

Splash Math
Butterfly Math
Tric-Trac (Everyday Mathematics)
Math Kid
Math Bug
Easy Match Dominoes
Math Cakes
Addition and Subtraction for Kids
Math Drills Lite
Math Racing
Flash to Pass
First Grade Math
Measure (Tap to Learn)
Amazing Coin
Barnyard Math Challenge
Banana Math and Reading
Tell Time
Telling Time Quiz

Make a folder of games
for easy access.



Mrs. Thorson's

"Whaley" Special Person Day in Preschool !



On Thursday, May 21st, Mrs. Thorson and Mrs. Harwood's Preschool classes hosted a "Whaley" Special Person Day! The children were able to choose a special person in their life to celebrate. The children had a blast making whale shaped cards and whale boxes that hold change. As the guests arrived, the children serenaded them with "You are my Sunshine", "You are Special", "What Do You Like to Do?" and "Skinamarink". After singing, the festivities continued with students sharing time with their special person. The Preschoolers had a wonderful time celebrating the very special people in their lives! It was most definitely a "whaley" special day!



Mrs. Willard's GATE Classes

GATE 1- Mechanical Engineering

Students are working on a Mechanical Engineering unit called, "Catching the Wind". In this unit, students read a story about a boy from Denmark who learns to use wind energy to solve a problem. Students are examining and analyzing how machines work from an engineer's point of view. The students are also creating different sail designs to propel a boat that will be powered by wind. The students are having so much fun making sails and learning about wind energy.



GATE 2- Investigating Artifacts: Myths and Masks

Students in 2nd grade are completing a unit called, "Investigating Artifacts". This unit is related to the study of world cultures. In this unit, students create original myths that explain a natural phenomena. The students are being very creative with their myths and are having a great time acting them out in class. They are also studying about masks around the world. Students learned that different cultures have used masks for ceremonies, hunting, healing and celebrations. Students are challenged to create a mask of their own using natural Earth materials. I'm sure the masks will be unique and very creative.





The People Puzzle Project



GATE 3 did some research and made up some clues, now it's **GATE 5's** turn to find **WHO's Who**.

Gate 3 – Hooray for the 3rd and 5th grade **GATE** classes. They have had the opportunity to work together and collaborate on an exciting research project. The 3rd grade **GATE** students began the project by creating an original “People Puzzle” where they had to think of and create clues and artifacts from a famous person's life. They worked hard in class to think of original ways to present their clues. The clues and artifacts were then sent to Mrs. Burke's 5th grade **GATE** class to decode. The 5th graders need to work like **CSI** agent's, genealogists, and historical researchers to examine the clues and find the meaning behind them. Once the 5th grade **GATE** students figure out who the famous person is, they will write a letter back to the 3rd grade **GATE** class about the results of their findings. The 3rd graders really enjoyed working on this research project knowing that their hard work paid off and had value. They also look forward to receiving positive feedback from the older children. The students in both schools have benefited from participating in this type of student research and vertical articulation project.

Lyme disease

- Lyme disease is caused by the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi* and is transmitted to humans through the bite of infected blacklegged ticks. Typical symptoms include fever, headache, fatigue, and a characteristic skin rash called erythema migrans. If left untreated, infection can spread to joints, the heart, and the nervous system. Lyme disease is diagnosed based on symptoms, physical findings (e.g., rash), and the possibility of exposure to infected ticks. Laboratory testing is helpful if used correctly and performed with validated methods. Most cases of Lyme disease can be treated successfully with a few weeks of antibiotics. Steps to prevent Lyme disease include using insect repellent, removing ticks promptly, applying pesticides, and reducing tick habitat. The ticks that transmit Lyme disease can occasionally transmit other tickborne diseases as well.

- Deb Warren
- From: cdc.gov

