

MATH:

- Chapter 7- Decimals

READING:

- final novel projects-
options presented

WRITING:

- Informative/literary
essays

LANGUAGE ARTS:

- Wordly Wise- Lesson 8
- CARS benchmark #3

SOCIAL STUDIES:

- California relief maps

**FEB. 12, 2016**

Ms. Giss and Mrs. Daftari's Inspired
4th Grade

**SOCIAL STUDIES: CREATING
A RELIEF MAP OF
CALIFORNIA**

Students have been excitedly creating a relief map of California. They are really enjoying the hands-on arts and crafts work that is involved. They began by tracing a cut out of California onto part of a pizza box. They then delineated each of the four regions in colored pencil and shaded them in, as a guide for when they will paint them. The most fun part so far was using celluclay (a paper mache like substance) to form the mountains (a tall peak for Mt. Whitney) and the Channel Islands. They enjoyed getting messy and working with their hands. We will be painting the maps and labeling them shortly. Please enjoy photos of this experience on our website!

WRITING

This week students began drafting a three-paragraph essay related to the novel they finished in guided reading. Some students chose to write about how a character changed over the course of the novel. Others decided to write an essay about the ending to their novel and their thoughts about it. Students first talked their piece out orally with a partner. They then used a graphic organizer to plan out their piece one paragraph at a time. We showed them a model essay for each option to provide them with a concrete example of what essay writing sounds like. Students are enjoying synthesizing their understanding of the book while they carefully work through this writing assignment. We have been encouraging them to support their ideas by bringing in evidence from the text and they are doing a great job of finding, fitting, direct quotes to include. We look forward to reading the results!



UPCOMING TESTS/IMPORTANT DATES:

- NO SCHOOL MON & TUES FEB 15TH- 16TH
- NO SPELLING NEXT WEEK
- GUIDED READING PROJECT DRAFT: DUE FEB 23RD
- WORDLY WISE TEST # 9: FEB 25TH
- MATH TEST CHAPTER 7: TBA

READING: NOTES ON THE AT-HOME PROJECTS

This week we introduced the at home final project to go along with the novel that students recently finished. They have 4 options to choose from to best meet their interests. There is a technology option, writing option, reading option, and create/design option. ALL PAPERWORK FOR THIS FINAL PROJECT CAN BE FOUND IN YOUR CHILD'S FOLDER AND IS ALSO POSTED ON THE "SPECIAL PROJECTS/ASSIGNMENTS" PAGE OF OUR CLASS WEBSITE FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE. **It is most important that students refer to the RUBRICS that are posted as they each detail the requirements and expectations for each project option.** By paying close attention to the categories on the rubrics, students can ensure an opportunity to maximize their score. They seem excited and we are eager to see what they come up with. Please note that we have given a midpoint deadline to help with time management skills. We will clarify for the students what is due on **Feb. 23rd** for each project option.

MATH

This week we worked on lessons 7.2 and 7.3- "Understanding Hundredths" and "Comparing Decimals." Students worked with base ten blocks and place value charts to deepen their understanding of regrouping hundredths for tenths. For example, 27 hundredths is equal to 2 tenths and 7 hundredths, hence .27. We worked with money, which is now becoming understood at a deeper level. We also worked with locating tenths and hundredths on a number line.

We will keep you posted on a test date for this chapter. We want to pace ourselves according to how the students are taking in the information.

Remember that we have videos posted on the videos page of our website to help students continue to make sense of this new concept. Once you are on Khan Academy, you will easily find practice problems and additional concepts with decimals.

IXL (section U) and the extra practice pages are also available.