



How to navigate the newsletter.

★ Starred classes have important information for next week.

The underlined sections highlight this week's homework and any special details for the week ahead.

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- Go check out the Journey Facebook page for all the action photos of these classes!

Class header colors =

HOMEWORK OPTIONAL CLASSES

HOMEWORK REQUIRED CLASSES

T: Rainforest Wonders

Taught by Beckie Olupot

All Ages 

In Rainforest, we talked about rodents and how important they are to the rainforest ecosystem. We learned about how they help distribute seeds and how their nest building is helpful not only for the safety of themselves and their babies, but also for other animals who will move in after they are gone. We even built our own nests out of mostly recycled materials, to practice being creative with the supplies that are available like the rodents do.

For homework:

The students should draw or write about one rainforest rodent and how it helps the rainforest. They could show it building a nest, storing a seed, or changing the forest in some way. Be sure to explain how its actions make a difference for other plants and animals.

T: Magic School Bus

Taught by Miss Heavenly

1st-3rd

In our Magic School Bus class, students watched the episode Makes a Rainbow, where Ms. Frizzle and her class explored how white light separates into different colors to create a rainbow. Afterward, we put that learning into action with a hands-on light and color experiment! Students colored each section of a circle pie chart in different shades, made predictions about which colors they would see the most after spinning it, and observed how brightness affected what appeared. For homework, they were encouraged to test their color wheels at home and record which colors "popped" the most. It was a fun and creative way to explore how light and color work together in our everyday world!

T: Little Builders

Taught by Shannon Van Beek

1st - 3rd

This week in Little Builders, we read "Look at that Building" and then discussed how many buildings feature patterns. For our project, we used shapes and glued them in patterns to create a wall or tower.

T: Lego Life

Taught by Leah Sytsma

1st-3rd

We mixed things up a bit and instead of a building challenge, they played a Lego "tower game". They started down a track which allowed them to either add or subtract bricks from their tower depending on what square they landed on and whoever finished with the tallest tower was the winner!

T: Back to the Land

Practical Homesteading Skills

Taught by Silvia Duthie

All Ages

Using our recipe books, we started the first half of our oil infusion project. Taking dried plants, such as peppermint, plantain, sage, and even chamomile, students chose their plants and stuffed the leaves into a jar, which then topped off with a carrier oil - either sunflower oil or olive oil. These jars need to sit around for 4-6 weeks to make them potent. Later, we will use these to make our own salves. Excellent work today!

All Ages

Today in Hunter's path, we reviewed our Grizzly Bear. Then we did a review on our first 7 weeks, Jeopardy style. Each class was divided into two, got to name their team, and the competition got quite fierce! The classes did great!

Next week's quarry animal is the Mountain Goat!

:ANIMAL OF THE WEEK:

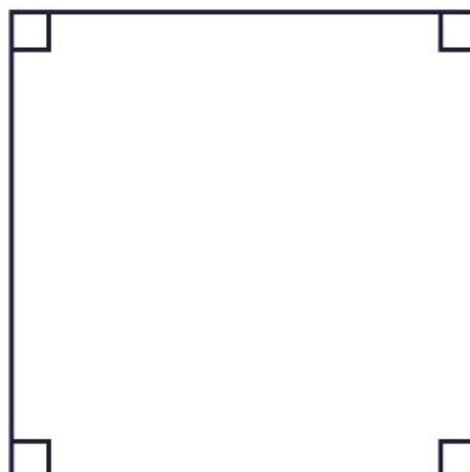
Mountain Goat



Habitat and Habits

LifeSpan in Wild:

PAW PRINT



Joke of the Week:

T: Global Gatherings

Taught by Samantha Todd

All Ages

We traveled to France this week! Students learned all about the iconic Eiffel Tower, then used marshmallows and toothpicks to engineer their own mini versions. To finish our French adventure, we made delicious chocolate éclair cake— a sweet taste of Paris!

T: Wholesome Plates

Cooking with Nutrition in Mind

Taught by Sarah Lutz

7th - 12th

Today I subbed (Mrs. Erin) for nutrition. The teens learned all about a balanced plate and serving sizes.

No Homework

All Ages 

Missions and Ministry - today we talked about a few more historical missionaries to the United States: DL Moody and David Wilkerson. We talked about the shoes of the gospel of peace (moody was a shoe maker) and empathy!

Optional extension - complete the "walk in their shoes" worksheet for any famous missionary to the United States! Students were sent home with a blank shoe. They should fill it and decorate it with things that represent a missionary!

T: Rube's World of Simple Machines Taught by Beckie and Leah

All Ages 

This week's simple machine was all about wedges and screws. We learned how these simple machines can make work easier by changing the direction of the force. We learned how wedges can split things apart and screws can hold things together.

Homework:

Part 1: Wedges

Look around your home or yard for three objects that use wedges (examples: knives, axes, doorstops, scissors). Draw each object and label the wedge part. Write one sentence explaining how the wedge makes work easier.

Part 2: Screws

Find three objects that use screws or threaded fasteners (example: jar lids, bolts, clamps). Draw and label the screw. Write one sentence explaining how turning the screw helps apply force or hold things together.

T: Tech Toolbox

Essential Computer Skills

Taught by Rebecca Cherry

All Ages

Today, we started and finished our vacation slideshows! These kids are working hard and building some amazing skills. Next week, we will present our slideshows!

T: Capture Crew

Photography and Yearbook

Taught by Alex Lutz

7th - 12th

The Capture Crew is making great progress on this year's yearbook! We recently focused on the cover design and—surprisingly—everyone came together and agreed on most of the details (a rare creative win!). 

Students also learned how to find inspiration to jumpstart their design process, exploring what makes a concept stand out and reflect the heart of our school year. With teamwork, creativity, and vision, this crew is capturing the year beautifully!

4th-12th 

Our scrapbookers have been busy creating beautiful pages that reflect what's important to them! The girls decided to use this time to design pages that capture their own passions and personalities — and the results are as unique as they are. ❤️

This week, take a few minutes to chat with your scrapbooker and help them gather at least 5 photos for their next page. We can't wait to see how they continue to tell their stories through creativity, color, and connection!

If needed, you can email pictures to journeyoffice@yahoo.com ahead of time so we can print them for class.

T: Art Adventures

Taught by Leah Sytsma

1st - 3rd

The kids are working on weaving coasters to sell at the Makers Market on November 14th.

T: Creative Canvas

Taught by Jill Childs & Rebecca Cherry

4th - 12th

This week, students used the blending method to bring their butterflies and flowers to life. By mixing colors and adding shading, their artwork became bright, lively, and full of personality.

We loved seeing each student's creativity shine through, and we can't wait to see what they create next!

T: Move to the Beat

Rhythm, Movement, & Drumming

Taught by Erin Young

1st-3rd / 4th-6th

Today we learned to play the table bells! The kids had a blast and we played a lot of yes, Christmas music! The younger class's favorite song was Jesus Loves Me! We had time to practice our rhythm and movement song we are working on, along with musical spots. The older class enjoyed bells, continued their ribbon choreography, and now have all of Psalm 150 memorized!

M: GYM

Taught by J Nimtz

All Ages 

Both days, Monday and Tuesday, we read through John 1:1-4.

We discussed how amazing it is that the “word” was in the beginning, and we explored what John meant when he said the “word”—referring to Jesus and the Bible—and how they already existed before the beginning and were present from the start!

This week, we played and learned about volleyball. We learned how to hit the ball the right way. “Bump, set, and spike!”

Next week, we will be playing and learning more about volleyball!

All Ages

Hola, This week in Spanish class for 7th-12th grade and 4th-6th grade we worked on translating a short paragraph from English to Spanish. We also recapped some of the common questions you ask when getting to know someone. Then we finished off with a story about "El encierro de los toros" and answered some comprehension questions on that. All assigned homework will be in the google classroom this week. Parents that asked for the printed weekly homework packets, I hope to have those ready for you soon! Thanks for your patience!

1st -3rd grade we practiced a short skit from their books about the Tortuga and Conjeo. They made their own masks and we performed the short skit. Next week we will be working on putting together their family roles/names book. If you haven't sent in a family picture yet feel free to email me at monquergibson@gmail.com and I will get those printed out for them.

T: Phonics Fun

Taught by Shannon Van Beek

1st-3rd

Today in phonics, we reviewed what we read last week, then read and answered discussion questions for a few more chapters. Afterwards, we played a phonics game focusing on middle letter sounds, and finished by everyone reading a book.

T:IEW Adventures in Writing

Taught by Leah Boone

3rd-5th 

Adventures in Writing: Finishing Lesson 7 this week! We practiced using who/which clauses in sentences, composing sentences from KWO, and reviewing -ly adverbs. We closed out the class with a very competitive round of Family Feud! I handed back the essays I read this week, so look for those in your students backpack :)

Homework: from your KWO, rewrite the story of Hannibal and his elephants in your own words. Try to compose at least one sentence with a who/which clause. Use the checklist to help you remember all the things that make your paragraph SHINE!

T: IEW Investigations in Writing Taught by Leah Boone

6th-8th 

Investigations in Writing: Lesson 8 - Theseus and the Minotaur. We are still using the Story Sequence to tell narrative stories. We reviewed our style elements: -ly adverbs, who/which clauses, and strong verbs. I handed out some lists of strong verbs to use in place of "weak" ones. Students are to avoid these weak verbs: see/saw, thing/thought, go/went, and say/said. We didn't spend much time on the new "dress-up," which is a because clause, so if your student doesn't quite understand how to use them, we will practice more in class in coming weeks. We read through the source text and started the KWO.

**Some of the creative writers in the class are doing the Story Variation option. We ended class with vocabulary Family Feud!

Homework: Complete the KWO by asking yourself the questions in the boxes, pg 69.

Complete the style practice pages 70-71 (vocab practice pg is optional). Rewrite the story in your own words using your KWO. Edit and add the "dress-ups" listed in the checklist. Even for those doing the story variation, organize your sentences in to three paragraphs that highlight the story sequence.

8th - 12th 

Research Papers: After doing an inventory check of binders, note cards, and assigned exercises, we are ready to start outlining/organizing our research. At the end of Lesson 7 is a worksheet to begin thinking about what exactly they plan to include in their research paper. The worksheet begins with Introduction, but I've instructed them to skip that section and begin with the body paragraph outlining. IEW practice is to always write your introduction last, so we will brainstorm how to compose a hook, background information, and enumeration of points at a later time.

Homework: Get out your cards and separate into piles - benefit or detriment. Then, using the worksheet on page 83 start thinking/writing out your claims and evidence. (Landon and Ajax still need to finish fleshing out their note cards before starting this new assignment.) Before beginning, decide which side of the argument you *mostly fall on: remember the prompt, "is social media good for society." Once you make this decision, start with the opposing argument (counterargument) and then move on to claims and evidence for the argument you support. Following the counterargument, worksheet provides space for up to 5 claims/evidence, each student must have at least three.

T: Michigan History

Taught by Melissa Gallup

1st-3rd / 4th-6th 

This week in Michigan History, students learned about how Michigan became a state in 1837 and met Stevens T. Mason, our first governor — known as the “Boy Governor.” They discovered how Mason helped Michigan reach statehood after the Toledo War with Ohio and how our state received the Upper Peninsula instead of the Toledo Strip — a trade that turned out to be a great blessing!

We also studied Michigan’s Great Seal, learning what each symbol and Latin phrase means — peace, defense, unity, and pride in our beautiful peninsulas.

In class, students designed their own “Governor’s Seal” and decorated woodland animal ornaments to represent Michigan’s natural beauty. You can buy them at the Maker’s Market on Nov. 14! :)

A homework sheet was sent home with each student.

T: Anatomy and Physiology 4th-6th

Taught by Sarah Lutz

4th-6th 

Homework:

Read text p. 94-97

Notebook p. 65, 66 questions 7-9, 74-75

T: General Science 7th-9th

Taught by Silvia Duthie

7th-9th



Covering the first half of Module 5, students began experiment 5.1, making a sun dial with a plate and a straw to learn how the sun is a time keeper. Students chose to take this project home and complete it there due to the lack of sun today (way too cloudy). Then, we made constellations using black paper and different stickers, using the examples from their textbook. Extra time at the end was used to play a gym game with the younger homesteading class.

Homework: Finish reading Module 5 and completing the OYO questions.

M&T: Exploring Creation with Anatomy (8-12) Taught by Silvia Duthie

8th - 12th 

Monday HS Anatomy: Students completed Module 4 today by taking the test. It was much material and everyone learned a lot! Tomorrow we will begin Module 5.

Tuesday HS Anatomy: We began diving into Module 5 - Skeletal Histology and Physiology - studying the cellular structure of muscles. We learned important parts that allow for movement and how the nervous system has to be involved, otherwise movement cannot happen.

Homework: For Module 5, complete all OYO, SGQ's by test day. No coloring book activities for this module! Next Monday will be the experiment, Tuesday finishing up the module, and the following Monday for the test.

M: Kinder Chronicles

Taught by Shelia and Wanda

What a fun week of being a kindergartner! These students bring so much joy each week to our class.

Here is what we did:

Calendar/weather

Bible story

November Bible verse

Alphabet Soup Game

Gym

Handwriting without Tears letters X & Y

Art...creating items for the Makers Market on the 14th

Number identification and counting

Read a couple of Thanksgiving Books