



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 

This week we talked about nocturnal animals found in the rainforest such as bats and kinkajous. We learned how they are created to rely on senses other than sight to survive. We did a few challenges with the kids to use other senses than sight by moving around blindfolded listening to a classmate's instructions. They also smelled different scents and tried to identify them without seeing them and finally did a touch challenge by reaching into a bag and a box to try to figure out the items inside again without seeing them.

Homework:

Choose one nocturnal rainforest animal and draw or print a picture of it in its environment and write 2-3 sentences describing how it uses its senses to survive in the dark.

T: Magic School Bus

1st-3rd

Taught by Samantha Todd

T: Little Builders

Taught by Shannon Van Beek

1st - 3rd

This week in little builders, we read "Rosie Revere, Engineer" and then used miscellaneous items to make our own inventions. The kids loved this so much.

T: Lego Life

Taught by Leah Sytsma

1st-3rd

Today's challenge was to make a secret room! They each had a mini figure that they had to hide somewhere in their build, and then they took turns guessing where the other hid their figures!

T: Back to the Land

Practical Homesteading Skills

Taught by Silvia Duthie

All Ages

Today, we had a special guest speaker come and share her knowledge about homesteading with bees. Kari, from Johnny Bee Company, brought in equipment and homes that are used in keeping bees, as well as all the products they make in their business with the by-products from the bees. Students had so many questions and took a great interest in learning. It was amazing to hear from a business that has over 600 hives, that moves their bees in the winter to Florida, and that has over 30 years of experience. They are local, I will add a link in the comments if anyone wants to see what they make.

T: Hunter's Path

Taught by Caitlin Pasma

All Ages

This week in Hunter Path, our students had a substitute teacher and enjoyed some exciting wildlife-themed activities!

Our older grades watched *A Cry in the Wild*, a movie that follows a young boy's adventure and survival in the wilderness — a great tie-in to our theme of nature and resourcefulness.

Meanwhile, our 1st-3rd graders had a wild time with Wild Kratts and an interactive round of Animal Tracks Bingo! They learned to identify different animal prints and had fun spotting which creatures left their marks.

It was a great week of learning and exploring the wild side of God's creation!

T: Global Gatherings

Taught by Samantha Todd

All Ages

We traveled to Chile this week! Students discovered the Atacama Desert, the driest desert in the world, and learned about the unique animals that live there. To finish our journey, we made alfajores—delicious shortbread sandwich cookies filled with dulce de leche. It was a sweet ending to our Chilean adventure!

T: Wholesome Plates

Cooking with Nutrition in Mind

Taught by Sarah Lutz

7th - 12th

It is very important that students bring notebooks and scissors to class next week. We will not be cooking and will be getting through some of the curriculum.

No Homework

T: Faith in Action

Hands-On Missions and Ministry

Taught by Rebecca Cherry

All Ages

Today, both classes had a guest speaker from Lifewise Academy! A ministry that provides Bible education during school hours. The older kids made encouraging notes for the students, and the younger kids cleaned the bus!

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

All Ages 

Today's simple machine was the incline plane/ramps and how they make our work easier. They experimented with ramps to find out how to make their car go faster and how to make it go farther.

Homework:

Part 1: Observation

Look around your home, playground, or neighborhood for at least three examples of ramps or inclined planes. Draw or write what you see (examples wheelchair ramps slides loading ramps skate park ramps). Write one sentence for each explaining how the ramp makes moving objects easier .

Part Two: Design Challenge

Imagine you need to move a heavy object (like a backpack box or bag) from a lower place to a higher place. Draw your own ramp that would help you do this. Label the ramp slope, length, and any other features that make it work well.

T: Tech Toolbox

Essential Computer Skills

Taught by Rebecca Cherry

All Ages

We finished up our vacation spreadsheets and started working on slideshow convincing our parents to take us on the vacation we planned!

7th - 12th 

This week in Capture Crew, we explored shutter speed — learning how to adjust it on our cameras and seeing how it changes the way motion is captured. Students practiced using slow shutter speeds to create amazing light drawings and fast shutter speeds to freeze splashes in action!

Optional Homework:

This week, I challenge students to take any kind of camera they have at home — point-and-shoot, phone, or DSLR — and capture something in motion! It could be water pouring, a pet running, leaves blowing, or lights at night.

If your student captures something they'd like to share, they can bring it to class next week via their camera, a printed photo, or email it to me at alicialutz@live.com. I can't wait to see their creative shots!

4th-12th 

This week in Scrapbook Class, we worked on our Friendship Pages — capturing sweet memories and celebrating the special people in our lives! It was wonderful to see each student's creativity shine through their photos, layouts, and personal touches.

Next week, we'll be starting our Hobbies Page! I'm challenging each student to grab their camera (or phone) this week and snap some photos of themselves doing their favorite hobbies — anything from drawing, reading, and baking to gymnastics, horseback riding, or volleyball.

These photos will make their pages even more personal and fun — and help us tell the story of what makes each student uniquely them!

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

T: Art Adventures

1st - 3rd

We celebrated fall by making pastel leaf silhouettes!

Taught by Leah Sytsma

T: Creative Canvas

Taught by Jill Childs & Rebecca Cherry

4th - 12th

This week in Creative Canvas, we practiced the techniques of color blending and shading – learning how different colors can be combined to create new ones and how shading can make artwork look more 3D and realistic.

Students experimented with these skills in practice exercises (not a full drawing just yet), and next week we'll put these techniques to the test in a creative project that brings their new knowledge to life!

T: Move to the Beat

Rhythm, Movement, & Drumming

Taught by Erin Young

1st-3rd / 4th-6th

Today was our last travel day, and we went to both Mexico and Ireland! The kids loved listening to traditional Mariachi band music AND Irish folk music! The younger class was also mesmerized by Irish step dancing and gave it a try themselves! The older class enjoyed finishing up the class by working on their choreography with ribbons! Excited to jump into something new and exciting next week!

M: GYM

Taught by J Nimtz

All Ages 

We read through Hebrews 10:24-25

We discussed how we need to try to always encourage one another and be uplifting towards others, and shared examples of how we can do that to our friends, family, and other people around us.

This week, we played a fun rock, paper, scissors game that got competitive and super fun. Also pulled out the parachute with the younger classes, and they loved it!

Next week, we will be playing and learning about Volleyball!

Please make sure your child has proper footwear for gym class.

T: Spanish

Taught by Monique Gibson

All Ages 

COMING SOON I will share 10/29 via facebook and email.

T: Phonics Fun

Taught by Shannon Van Beek

1st-3rd

Today in phonics, we reviewed what we've read so far and then read two more chapters in "Mr. Popper's Penguins" and discussed some new words that are in the book, and answered some discussion questions. Then we broke up into our groups and played a phonics game and read some books.

T: IEW Adventures in Writing Taught by Leah Boone

3rd-5th 

Began Lesson 7 - Today we added vocabulary cards to our stack, reviewed -ly adverbs, and learned a new stylistic tool! Our new "dress-up" is a who/which clause.

Because we didn't get to the KWO in class, it will be the main homework for this week. A few students have determined to also do the writing portion, but it is not required! We will take one more week to finish this lesson 😊

Homework: pg 56-58 → KWO, review new style, complete the style practice (if not done in class), and fill in the vocabulary practice pages.

For those that follow the assignment schedule, you will do Day 1 step 3, Day 2 step 1, and Day 3 step 1

Ps Parents, my hat's off to you! I was blessed with so many papers this week! I think everyone present gave me their work and I know this is only possible with your support, so I thank you! ❤️

T: IEW Investigations in Writing Taught by Leah Boone

6th-8th 

Finish lesson 7 - We spent a good amount of class time on reviewing "dress-ups" and went through the style practice pages. Your students should be armed with a host of style tools to make their stories POP!

—Homework: rewrite the story of Pheidippides and the Battle of Marathon in your own words using your KWO. Use the checklist to remind yourself of all the goals of the assignment! Remember to have three paragraphs to highlight the three "C's" of the Story Sequence!

T: IEW Writing Research

Taught by Leah Boone

8th - 12th 

This week is catch up week! Next week we will start outlining and rough draft, so get that research organized! 😊

—Homework:

- 1) go back and complete note cards for each of our 4 sources (one in workbook, 3 handed out). I reviewed everyone's cards this week and wrote notes for each student - look in your box for notes on each set of cards. The ones for this last source is looking good for everyone!!! Good work! Yet...the other sources are a little lackluster and they need some fleshing out.
- 2) bring binder with articles, a couple students need to complete or show me their annotation.
- 3) IF you didn't yet, complete the paraphrasing exercise from last week and make the "Works Cited" page. Since the paper is not yet written, we don't know exactly which sources will be cited, but we will assume all four of them!

**Caitlin, if you want to connect with me to get Landon's card box, lmk! Email, FB messenger, or text (616)333-9325

1st-3rd / 4th-6th

This week in Michigan History, both classes learned about Michigan's "Almost War" with Ohio — also known as the Toledo War — and how something that seems bad at first can turn out to be a blessing in disguise.

1st-3rd Grade:

Students heard the Bible story of Joseph, who went through difficult times that God used for good. We connected that to Michigan's story: Ohio got to keep the Toledo Strip, and Michigan received the Upper Peninsula instead. At first it seemed unfair, but later the U.P. turned out to be full of valuable resources like copper, iron, and lumber!

Students made a mini book about the "Almost War" with Ohio, highlighting important facts and drawings from the lesson.

4th–6th Grade:

Students watched a historical video about the Toledo War and how Michigan's path to statehood included this border dispute with Ohio. Afterward, they created comic strips to show what they learned — using humor and creativity to retell history in their own words!

Homework:

Both classes received a homework page to reinforce the lesson and review key terms.

It was a fun and meaningful week — learning that, just like Joseph and Michigan, sometimes what looks like a loss can become one of our greatest blessings!

T: Anatomy and Physiology 4th-6th

Taught by Sarah Lutz

4th-6th



We split into groups and worked together to recall the digestive anatomy. Students did really well with this. I am so impressed! We had a little extra time at the end of class and reviewed bone names & reflexes.

Homework:

Read text p. 85-93

Complete "Try This" on page 93.

Notebook: p. 65, 66 questions 1-6 only, and 72-73.

T: General Science 7th-9th

Taught by Silvia Duthie

7th-9th



We completed Module 4 today, doing the one experiment in this chapter. We learned about different methods of dating found things and how they may or may not be reliable. The experiment had them counting tree rings and studying the rings themselves to see how weather fluctuations could change the growth of certain years, and how it can be used with a master tree ring to compare timelines. Afterwards, they created artwork with their tree rings. Excellent work today!

Homework: Read half of Module 5 and work on the OYO questions along the way.

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

We had a fun week of learning. I love it when I hear the students say "I love school". I pray that this year starts them on a life of loving to learn.

Here is what happened this week:

Calendar/weather

Bible story

October Bible verse

We learned about and read a story about Johnny Appleseed

Gym

Art....Johnny Appleseed

Handwriting Without Tears letters V & W

Apple theme number identification