



Middle School December News

Haines School -- 247 W. 23rd Place -- 773-534-9200

ELA - Ms. Grober (301)

Mathematics - Mrs. Sumita (303)

Science - Dr. Ferrer (302)

Social Science - Ms. Twillie (308)

Special Education - Ms. Berman (205)

"Families are a valuable asset to a child's education."

Character Trait of the Month: Self control red

English Language Arts- POETRY UNIT

6th and 7th graders will enjoy and appreciate poetry by listening, reading, analyzing, critiquing and writing poems. They will explicate poems by applying Elements of Literature, Figures of Speech and Poetic Terms. They will express feelings, emotions, and creativity while making connections. They will explore the elements of many different types of poetic forms and understand poetic elements, forms, and expressions. This unit will enhance the students' reading, oral, listening and writing skills.

ELEMENTS OF LITERATURE:

Characters, Conflict, Plot, Setting, Theme, Point of View, Imagery, Mood, Tone, Foreshadowing, Flashback, Allusion, Analogy, Symbol, and Irony

FIGURES OF SPEECH:

Hyperbole, Personification, Metaphor, Simile, Antithesis, and Understatement

POETIC TERMS:

Alliteration, Assonance, Ballad, Blank Verse, Caesura, Consonance, Couplet, Enjambment, Foot, Line Break, Meter, Onomatopoeia, Refrain, Repetition, Rhyme, Sonnet, Stanza, Verse, Connotation, and Denotation

TYPES OF POETRY:

Narrative, Lyric, Concrete, Haiku, Limerick, Free Verse

Math

All math students have access to Khan Academy ([khanacademy.org](https://www.khanacademy.org)) and should be spending 1-3 hours weekly on those concepts they feel they need additional practice.

6th graders have explored the concept of absolute value and opposites. They've used absolute value to find the perimeter and area of polygons on a coordinate grid (absolute value is an important concept as we continue working with rational numbers). Currently, 6th graders are reviewing the previous concepts of Least Common Multiple, Greatest Common Factor, Order of Operations and prime factorization and have applied them to real-world problems. Once that is complete, they will use this knowledge to write and evaluate algebraic expressions.

All 6th graders should continue working to organize themselves for success in the mathematics class! This includes maintaining their binder to include all of their materials (so that nothing is inadvertently left in their locker, in their desks or at home!). They also will continue to update their vocabulary, take notes daily and talk to each other with respect so that we can learn from each other.

7th graders completed their geometry unit and are finishing up their review of applying all operations to all rational numbers. Once that is complete, they will begin our Stretching and Shrinking unit, which focuses on similarity, ratio and proportion.

Science

6th graders will finish their investigation of the atmosphere, then end the Weather and Atmosphere unit by simulating the job of a meteorologist, interpreting a weather map to present a weather forecast. Then they will start their unit on Exploring Space.

7th graders will conduct a mini experimental project where each team will design an investigation to answer the question, "Which is the best habitat for the lumbriculus variegatus?" Teams also chose an invasive species to research and present its impact on Chicagoland's ecosystems and beyond. Individuals and/or teams will participate in the December 8, 2016 Haines Annual Middle School Science Fair. They will present their design project or experimental project to peers and judges.

Social Studies

6th graders have completed Chapter Three: Ancient Egypt and Nubia. Students have demonstrated mastery in the areas of Summarizing and Comparing Map Scales. The class will remain in the continent of Africa but will move forward on the timeline to 1324 A.D. The focus skill for Chapter Thirteen, "African Empires" is: Sourcing primary and secondary documents. Students will be introduced to the historical question: "Was Mansa Musa the richest man ever? Students will end this unit with a writing assignment in which they make claims and use documents to support their claims.

7th graders continues to source and contextualize primary source and secondary sources. Students have completed the Jamestown unit using the Document Based Question (DBQ): Early Jamestown: Why Did So Many Colonist Die? We are completing the Thirteen Colonies. We will begin researching History Fair topics.

Room 205: We will be starting our new novel, The Watsons Go to Birmingham. We will focus on theme and finding text evidence to answer comprehension questions. We are also focusing on summarization skills and figurative language. We will be watching the movie and doing a compare/contrast in the way a movie is produced based on a based on the book. In Math we are reinforcing multiplication skills and using those skills to solve computation and real world problems. In Science we are studying landforms, their creation and man's adaptation to these environmental conditions. In Social Science we will be studying exploration of American, causes and effects, especially as this affected native cultures and the environment.

Reminder

Encourage your child to read daily.

Important December Dates

December 8 - Haines Annual Middle School Science Fair

December 9 - 6th grade field trip to Museum of Science and Industry (Rooms 301, 302, 306, and 308)

December 12 - Resource Force Presentation for middle school, 1:45 pm @ Multi-purpose hall

December 26 to January 6 - Winter Break

December Stars of the Week

December 7	December 14	December 21
Huixuan Qiu - 302 Mei Lian Wu - 303 Samantha Wu - 308	Johnny Ou - 302 Jeffrey Chen - 303 Danica Chen - 308	Isha Batres - 302 Vicky Chen - 303

<u>Character Trait of the Month</u>	<u>Area for Recess</u>
October- Kindness orange November- Caring brown December- Self control red January- Self motivation pink February- Cooperation white March Honesty green April Citizenship blue May Responsibility yellow June Tolerance turquoise	November/December - Field January/February March/April - Lot 2, wall May/June - Field