

Seventh Grade Newsletter

February 20, 2024

Upcoming Events

- Pure Michigan final payments are due March 4
- Progress reports for third quarter will be posted in Skyward on Friday
- This Friday, eighth grade is sharing their homemade sauerkraut with us out in the Willows

S.E.L. Lessons

In this week's lesson to wrap up this unit, your child will share strategies for how to interrupt unhelpful thoughts and manage strong emotions with their peers by creating a comic strip.

Ask to see your child's comic strip. If they don't have the comic strip, ask them to explain it to you.

Curriculum Notes

ELA: Students are revising and editing their Bud, Not Buddy response essay. Final drafts are due Friday, February 23. You can help your student by reading their essay and offering suggestions. The checklist we use is on the next page of this newsletter.

For reading, we have started our mystery book clubs. Students are responsible for reading the book and preparing discussion questions for meetings.

Social Studies: Students will be working on their Roman Empire Projects. They will also be exploring the empires of China and India, learning about which empires were successful and why. Finally, they will be learning about why empires collapsed.

Science: Thursday will be the Heat Transfer test. Students have completed and tested their penguin dwellings. Students used engineering processes to research, design, build and test their dwellings. Next week, we will begin learning about cells.

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Introductory Paragraph

TAG: The first sentence of a Response to Literature identifies the title, author, and genre of the text being analyzed.

Summary: The summary is 2-3 sentences that describe the main ideas or plot points of the text.

Claim: The last sentence of your introductory paragraph should be your claim. Essentially, this sentence states your basic answer to the question from the prompt or whatever you are trying to prove.

Body Paragraphs

Premise: The first sentence of each body paragraph should state a reason that supports your claim.

Introduction to Evidence: These phrases "set the scene" for the evidence. Often, they include a phrase such as "According to the text" or "According to the author..."

Evidence: These are direct quotes from within the text. Quotation marks indicate the reader has arrived at the evidence.

Justification: This is 2-3 sentences explaining the evidence you chose and WHY it supports your premise and your claim.

Concluding Paragraph

Restate your claim: Using different words from the introductory paragraph, restate your claim.

Summarize your evidence: No new evidence is introduced here.

Mic Drop Sentence: A "mic drop" sentence ties the whole Response to Literature together and proves your point(s) once and for all.

