



Third Grade Weekly Plans

September 12, 2016

**TEACHER: Ms. Verheeck
ASSISTANT: Mrs. Doyle**

Virtue: Respect & Responsibility
Psalms: 15
Saying: "When in Rome, do as Romans do"
"One rotten apple spoils the whole bunch"

Dear Parents,

It was nice seeing many of you at the Family Picnic yesterday! Today is the day the students have been waiting for—our field trip to VINs! I would like to thank Mr. Martin for taking time out of his day to drive us to VINs. The students were very excited to hear they would be riding on the "new" bus!

There are many adjustments that the third graders make when they enter my classroom. For one, they are used to having folders in second grade that Mrs. Doyle emptied for them. As soon as they entered our classroom this year, I provided each student with a homework binder and explained that this is where they would keep all of their homework assignments, important papers, and work to share with their parents. Over the course of the week I've heard less of, "My mom/dad forgot to put it back into my backpack last night," and more of, "Miss Verheeck, I remembered my binder!" This is a process, but it is a process that the students are handling well. Secondly, I have received questions about how hands on homework should be. I appreciate you encouraging your child to make sure that their homework assignments are complete; however I'd like to see what your child knows. Homework helps me gauge where I'm headed in my lessons in days to come. With that being said, please use your best judgement. My end goal is to create a classroom full of students that think on their own before asking for support, students who will be able to navigate the campus next year with all of their belongings as they switch classes in fourth grade. I look forward to working with you and your child to create this ideal environment.

This week your child will have a list of spelling words that he/she will be responsible for. During the first week of school I gave each student an informal spelling assessment and have carefully placed them on a spelling list that I feel is "just right" for them. The goal is to challenge your child but not overwhelm them. On Mondays, (except this week), Tuesdays, and Wednesdays, your child will have a written spelling activity assigned for homework. I typically create a "Spelling Menu" that allows your child to use their creativity to practice their words. On Thursdays, I ask that you review the words with your child in order to practice for their assessment on Friday. If your child chooses to complete a written assignment on Thursday evening, I will give them extra credit points towards their end of term grade.

Sincerely,

Heather Verheeck

Important Dates:

9/12- Third Grade Field Trip to VINs
9/13- First day of TAG and BOOT camp
9/20- School Picture Day
9/21- Back to School Night

Curriculum this Week:

Each week I will share the curriculum that is covered. This will allow you to know the various units and content that we will study.

Reading: This week we will continue reading “I Survived... the Destruction of Pompeii,” and we will use our Core Knowledge readers to read about Ancient Rome and Animal Classification. The students will be required to go back and locate answers within the text. This is a skill that we will work on throughout the school year.

Language Arts: We will continue working in Framing Your Thoughts. The students will review the concept of subjects and with that they will learn about common and proper nouns. In addition, I will introduce the concept of predicates and the students will practice diagraming sentences as well as creating their own. In writing, the students have been working on Roman myths that they are writing with a partner.

Spelling:

Green: chief, whine, sharp, when, scout, scale, climb, quit, wrap, fruit, theme, thank, plot, groan, phone, trust, smell, twig, brief, brave, front, clog, stain, quote

Blue: uneasy, misspell, disbelief, infrequent, undress, misleading, disease, insane, insincere, unaware, misfortune, disorder, inhuman, unfasten, mischief, disrespect, dishonest, informal, unknown, mistake, disconnect, inexpensive, untidy, discourage

BONUS: crustacean, amphitheater, architectural

Vocabulary: Lesson 1: “A Good Sense Across the Grades”

gradually, graduate, graduation, sensation, sensational, senseless, sensible, sensitive

Math: This Tuesday we will begin chapter 2! We will cover mental addition and subtraction, as well as rounding. We will do numerous activities on Friday to model rounding since it is typically a difficult concept.

Geography: This week the kids will begin working on a “My Place on the Planet” project. This will also allow the students to learn and master their address. We will be reading about directions and making a compass craft.

History: This week the students will continue researching a God or Goddess. They are in the process of making a trading card for their assigned God or Goddess. In addition to writing Roman myths, the students will be exposed to information about the Roman Republic. If time allows this week, the students will begin working on mosaics.

Science: This week we will begin science at VINs! We are very fortunate to have the opportunity to learn about reptiles and amphibians with help from our friends at VINs. We will continue learning about Fish and Amphibians this week in class and will pause to research an animal that will be assigned to each student. The students will have the opportunity to classify classroom objects and work with a partner to compare and contrast particular types of animals. We have a full and exciting scientific week ahead of us!