

What is happening in Grade 6?

Structures
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Learning Support Newsweek

QUARTER 1
SEMESTER 1

September 19, 2016



Sample of breaking reading chunks into chapters for the week.

Points of Interest:

- CWW Permission Slips due: Sept. 20th
- MAP Testing begins: Sept. 26th
- CWW: Oct. 6-7th

Dear Parents,

During these formative years, we are encouraging parents to help their children develop a regular schedule for completing homework and studying every night. The time should be SET, while free time is a more flexible time. The time spent on homework and studying should be determined by who much is given. Not all children are good at predicting how much time it will take them to complete their work nor are they skilled at prioritizing what to do first and differentiating between being productive and "spacing out." Free time should be given after homework is done.

English

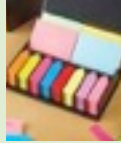
(Wellness)

Assignments this week:

Book Club – Students will be meeting 3-4 more times with their book clubs, having meaningful discussions about their shared books.

Here are some organizational tips:

- Break down the chunk into even small parts, like chapters, and plan how much will be read every day.
- Plan to have read the entire chunk by Tues. every week, so that the role sheet and summary can be completed by Wed.



Here are some reading comprehension tips while reading:

- Use sticky notes or a reading journal to record when the assigned reading strategy is used.
- Keep a dictionary on hand (maybe a cell phone) to look up words that cannot be figured out from the context clues alone.
- Write a quick summary after each chapter.



Other things to remember:

- Bring your book home and to school everyday (class time will be given to read)
- One of four reading strategies will be assigned every week: making connections, visualizing, asking questions, or inferring.
- To see what the reading strategies look like, watch the [videos](#) on my blog.

Expository Writing – Students will be given a writing task in which they will evaluate what is being asked, make a plan on how to approach the task, show and organize their ideas visually (using a Brain Frame and writing template, and work on writing their paragraph. Later down the road, students will be expected to write one paragraph that informs the reader about the different parts of their ideal society, including type of government.

Reminders

- Thursday - read Ch. 3
- Friday - read Ch. 4
- Saturday - read Ch. 5
- Sunday - read Ch. 6
- Monday - read Ch. 7
- Tuesday - complete role sheet and summary
- Wednesday - Chunk #2 due
- Thursday - read Ch. 8
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Social Studies

Assignments this week:

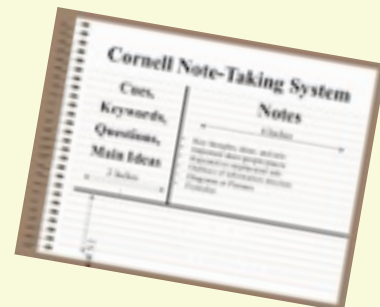


Service Learning – Work towards creating a service learning project in Manila will continue every Fri. Students should have researched about their topic through media resources (print, video, websites) already. This week will focus on designing interview questions. Mr. Willey will be guest appearing in class to allow students to practice giving an interview. Tips on how to ask questions and record the responses will be given.

Government Levels and Branches – How governments are organized (Legislative, Executive, and Judicial branches) will be discussed. Students will take notes on the roles and responsibilities of each branch, focusing on how laws are passed.



Citizenship – Students will be learning about their roles and responsibilities as well as rights as citizens. What are the top five human rights every person deserves?



Homework and Study Tips:

1. Make sure there has been some time **relaxing** before starting.
2. Think about what has to be done.
3. Make a list of the different homework tasks.
4. Draw an asterisk next to the really important assignments on the list.
5. Make a smart guess about how long each assignment is going to take.
6. Order the assignments.
7. Organize what is needed.
8. Start doing assignments.
9. Focus on only doing **one part** of an assignment at a time.
10. **Congratulate** self after each part is done.
11. Figure out how many parts of an assignment will be done before a break is taken.



Science

Assignments this week:

Cells Quiz – Students have completed a [study guide](#) in class to help prepare for the **quiz on Sept. 21st**. Other resources to review and study:

- [Cell vocabulary](#)
- [similarities and differences](#) between plant and animal cells
- [Brain Frame](#)
- Quizlet on [Cell's Organelles](#)
- Quizlet [More about Cells](#)
- [Cell's Gameshow](#) Question and Answer



- [Kahoot](#) / [Kahoot](#) (create 2 tabs - one teacher and one student to play)

Mung Bean Experiment – Next week on Thur./Fri., students will be using the Scientific Method to find the best conditions for the structure of a mung bean plant to grow. Students will be expected to take care of their plants at home, being sure to record growth (cm) and take pictures as soon as their plants begin to grow (usually by Day 3). To be sure that students are staying organized with this project, they will

be given step-by-step instructions and a checklist. The pictures of their plants will need to be uploaded to a computer for the oral presentation of this project, so be sure to use a device that will allow an easy upload. View a copy of the project [here](#).

MATH (Wellness)

Assignments this week:

Fractions – Having learned that numbers on a number line include both positive and negative integers as well as rational numbers (numbers that can be expressed as a ratio or fraction, this next part of the unit is focused on Fractions. Students already learned about multiples of a number (5: 5, 10, 15, 20, etc). This week and next will focus on creating equivalent fractions, finding greatest common factors between 2-3 numbers, and adding/subtracting fraction with like and unlike denominators.

Tip: Students will be adding to their toolkit with procedures on how to work with fractions.

HW reminder: Mr. McKnight's gives homework in the beginning of the week with the expectation that it will be due the following week (first lesson). His [blog](#) will always have the homework posted as well as extra practice (optional) for further development and enrichment of skills. Students will be asked to submit their toolkits about twice a month for homework to be checked and feedback can be given. This will count towards the overall Learning Habit grade.

CLASS BLOG

A host of resources are available on my blog to support students in developing consistent study habits. "Studying" is not the same as completing homework. The main difference is that homework is an assigned task that is part of an overall grade in a class, while studying is meant to review concepts and skills learned. With studying, feelings of preparedness, confidence, and being proud should be part of the experience as mastery is achieved. At least 20 minutes is recommended each week accessing the reviews, extra practices, Quizlet, and Math games.