

Fortnightly 6th Grade Newsletter: Week before February Break

Language Arts

Students have completed on “LA Journal Page” for their 6th Grade Africa Journal. This page included 4 main parts: a summary of *Safari Journal* by Hudson Talbott, personal explanation of a quote from this book (most did “Life is a safari”), an About the Author (them!), and a brief note on the style of their individual journal (voice). The skills that we are focusing on are: topic sentences with meaningful supporting details, writing with our own unique voice, thinking deeper (going beyond first thoughts), breaking down a large project into manageable chunks, and challenging ourselves to do our best. Students are able to revise this page and improve their grade. This first page also helps the students get ready for future journal pages in LA and other core classes.

Currently students are working on their second LA Journal Page. They chose between a Folktale work station and an African Book station. This second page is due 2/21. Next week, they will complete the third LA Journal Page (Folktale or Book, whichever they have not completed).

Please ask your child to see the pink overview sheet and push them to do their best work and beyond (with enrichment and ‘multipliers’).

When we return from vacation, we will tie up all our learning about Africa and bind our journal.

February Reading Calendars will be due Wednesday, March 9th.

Math

Students have been working on an interactive African pattern poster that reinforces translations, rotations, and reflections. The similarity and transformations quest has been graded and returned, and math points are due on March 8th. Please check edline to find out how many math points have been accrued, and let me know if any extra help is needed. I am available to stay after school Monday through Wednesday until 3:30pm.

Science

As the trimester comes to an end, students are completing their African Animal project which will become four pages in a Safari Journal with contributions from the other core classes. These pages will examine where in Africa their animal lives (along with the specific habitats in those countries), include a labeled drawing of their animal with physical characteristics, how it is classified scientifically from Kingdom to species including an explanation of what those scientific names mean, and have a couple short paragraphs on how the population is doing and other interesting facts about their animal.

Also due before the break are parts one and two of the self guided “Rock Cycle Webquest”. After the break and before the end of the trimester, students will be required to complete part three with the final piece wrapped up as a blog entry including all previous pieces and a narrative of how the different rock types form and change over time.

Social Studies

It has been a very busy few weeks in social studies class. Students have been working on the Mini African Country Books. W-O-W do they look great! We will be finishing up our books before vacation and then we will be making our journal pages. The African unit will continue after vacation for about 2 weeks and then we will be off to another country. I am thinking warm weather so just wait and see. Have a great vacation week.