



Blount's Busy Bee Bulletin

Gladstone Elementary

Your Child and the Importance of Sleep

Below is a summary from an article found at GreatSchools.org. about kids and their need for sleep.

Here is a summary of the five facts:

- Lack of sleep will affect your child's mental performance in a detrimental way.
- **Even an hour can make a difference.** Researchers discovered that an extra hour of sleep improved attention and memory by almost two grade levels.
- A child can feel stress due to several factors, even having too many extracurricular activities. Children need time for play. Otherwise, it's hard for them to relax at bed time and get a good night's rest. Children need to rewind, too.
- Sleep deprivation can cause mood swings, irritability, reaction control, and a loss in IQ points making it more difficult for children to pay attention and engage in learning.
- There is no perfect number of hours for all children. Guidelines suggest, however, that most six to nine year olds require **about ten hours of sleep each night**. Keeping to a schedule will help your child get the rest she needs. If your child isn't waking up feeling rested before the alarm goes off, it's a sign that he needs more sleep.
- For more information and a related article go to: <http://www.greatschools.org/parenting/health-nutrition/620-sleep-the-secret-weapon-for-school-success.gs?page=all>

Volume 14, Issue 5
September 20, 2021

Special points of Interest:

- Science
- Art
- Curriculum Snapshot
- Reminders
- Newsletter Raffle

Accelerated Reader Update

So far, our class total for the number of
words read is. . .

522,648

You're all doing great!

Keep going!!! :)

Mystery Science

This week we started our first science unit, *Power of Flowers*. We will be learning about a plant's life cycle and heredity. First, we watched a great video from *Mystery Science* about how bees pollinate flowers and plants and why bees are necessary for pollination. We did a class activity that followed what we learned and gave us a model that supported our learning and helped us understand it even more.

We will be using a science journal to record all of our learning. Our notes, annotations, and "flowers" will be stored in our journals so that we can review our important notes anytime we want or whenever we need to study.

Art

This week's lesson focused on warm and cool colors as well as creating a horizon line. First, we drew a mountain scene using mountains as our horizon (where land meets the sky). We drew over our lines with glue and let it dry. We talked about warm (reds, oranges, and yellows) and cool (greens, blues, and purples) colors and how they make us feel and how they might be used in the world around us. This week we finished our mountain landscapes by coloring the land with warm colors and the sky with cool colors OR doing the reverse. We even used construction paper crayons instead of our regular crayons since the paper we used is black. They look absolutely beautiful!

As soon as all the Artsonia permission slips are returned, the kids' pictures will be available for viewing there as well.

*Permission slips are in your child's Bee binder.

Curriculum Snapshots!

Benchmark Advance: During our reading time, we are rereading each "short read" multiple times. Each time we read, we are focusing on a different comprehension strategy. We worked on main idea, cause and effect, sequencing words (Ex. first, next, after, etc.), graphic text features (Ex. maps, photos, captions), and context clues (Ex. called, lists,). We are annotating in our Close Reading Text and then writing those annotations in our Close Reading Companion booklets.

Writing: We are continuing the writing process with our "small moment" stories by identifying the characters and beginning, middle, and end of the story. Our next step is to start our story with a topic sentence "grabber." Example "grabber" and "zinger" sentences are included in your child's Bee binder, too.

Math: We finished our first math chapter. Chapter Two is all about reading and creating frequency tables, bar graphs, and picture graphs. It's a much shorter chapter, so we need to focus, focus, focus!

How to Decode a Two Syllable Word

This week we started our work on decoding words that follow the VCCV (vowel, consonant, consonant, vowel) pattern. Examples of this pattern are *butter*, *winter*, *window*, *pillow*. This pattern is extremely important, because so many words that we read, spell, and write have a VCCV spelling. Students divide *in between* the consonants to help them decode/read a word. On our website under "Language Arts" is a chart to help you assist your child as s/he learns to decode these super important types of words.

There are three important generalizations that students are memorizing and need to use as they decode words.

*If two or more consonants are between two vowels, divide in between the consonants.

*One vowel not at the end is short.

*One vowel at the end is long.

Reminders!

- We are working toward collecting PTA memberships so that our class has 100% participation.
- October 1: Pride Stride Fun Run
- October 1: KidsCan & Spirit Day (Mismatched Fun Run)
- October 6 & 7: Minimum Days for parent conferences with dismissal at 12:25.
- October 8: Pupil Free Day
- October 26: Picture Make-Up Day
- October 29: Pupil Free Day
- November 11: Veteran's Day
- November 12: Trimester 1 Ends
- November 22-26: Thanksgiving Break



Scan this QR code to visit our website. There's lots of information about our class and resources to support you and your child.



Newsletter Raffle: Week of September 20, 2021

*Turn in this form on/before Friday, October 1, 2021

*Pick five VCCV words we haven't practiced in class and write them down below. Then read them to an adult and tell them the steps for decoding them. :)

Name _____ Parent Signature _____
