

Effingham Fourth Grade News

By Cherrie Preut

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Calling for State Assessment Help !!

Parents, this week I need your help as we begin our first state assessments. Fourth grade will be taking the reading assessment first. We will test on the mornings of March 4th, 5th, and 6th. It is very important that your student gets plenty of sleep each night and that they eat breakfast each morning.

Secondly, each student needs to bring a snack that can be shared with the rest of the class. Items like breakfast food, pretzels, grapes, peanut butter crackers, etc. would be a healthy way to pump us up!

Finally, I ask that you talk with your student about the importance of these tests and encourage them to do their best. When we talk about these tests at school I always stress the idea that doing your best is what is important. Students making gains are more important to me than the status they receive from the state.

Items Needed-Just a Reminder!

Each student needs to bring one pack of wide-lined notebook paper. Our available stack is getting smaller and we will run out before the end of the year.

Secondly, each student needs to bring a pack of baby wipes. Using Expo markers leaves our hands very messy. Instead of running to the bathroom every time we use the wipe boards these wipes save us lots of instructional time. Thanks for your help!!

Calendar Notes

State Reading Assessment-March 4th, 5th and 6th

State Math Assessment- March 11th, 12th and 13th

Curriculum Highlights

We had a great time this week reviewing the steps of the scientific method. Our experiment about dehydration was done using an unpeeled apple and a peeled apple. We weighed each apple on Tuesday and then again on Thursday and Friday. We discovered that the peeled apple dehydrated at a much faster rate than the unpeeled apple. Another fascinating science experiment was started last week when we had dental education. I was asked to brush my tongue and then scrape it across a Petri dish filled with a pink gel-like substance. The bacteria from my tongue grew a very fuzzy specimen for us to observe. Hopefully your students will be brushing their teeth and tongues a lot better over the next few weeks!!

In Reading we started back in reading groups. We are in completely different types of groups this time and enjoying our time together with different friends. One group is reading about a young Irish boy taking a voyage on the Titanic. Another group made up of boys only are reading about a young hero in World War II. Finally, we have a group reading about a young lady who gets involved in a mystery surrounding the play she is performing in summer theater. We are enjoying reading about kids their age!

In math we have been learning how to change fractions into decimals and decimals into equivalent decimals.