

Stripes Newsletter

April 2009

Dates to Remember:

7th Grade field trip—May 14

Last day of school—May 22

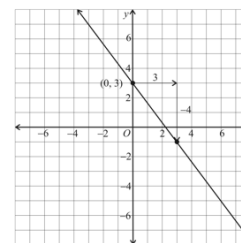
Language Arts

Spelling and vocabulary work continues in language arts classes through the end of the school year. Students have just completed the year-long study of the parts of speech, ending with the interjection. The next writing project(s) involve the composition of poems, and personal and business letters.



Math

Students are just finishing working with both theoretical and experimental probability. They found the probability of both simple and compound events. We will spend the last weeks of the 4th quarter preparing them for an algebra class. We will continue our study of graphing to include graphing in the coordinate plane and they will explore linear relationships and the concept of slope as they graph points and lines in all four quadrants. They also investigate nonlinear relationships to finish out the year before we start to prepare for their final.



Science



The last month of science class serves as a culmination of the entire year, tying together all the concepts that have been covered. We will be doing a unit on conservation and recycling. Students will be exploring the pros and cons of various forms of alternative energy, as well as exploring easy ways for each of them to leave a positive mark on their environment.

Social Studies

By 1860 the South was tired of compromising as they felt their plantation culture dominated by the use of slaves was being threatened. What right did the government have over the states?



This became more important as they saw Abe Lincoln as a real threat to their way of life. As the two sides drew up boundaries, war was now inevitable. Stripes team students will study the major battles and personalities of the war and follow the carnage and destruction through most of the South. They will also gain an appreciation for the horrid conditions soldiers endured on both sides and the importance of the African American to the success of the North's victory. The last few days will focus on America's efforts to rebuild itself during Reconstruction.

Literature

Literature students are finishing the novel *Behind Rebel Lines*, which tells the story of Civil War spy Emma Edmonds. Emma disguised herself as a man to enter the Union army during the war and proceeded to go on several spy missions, cementing her place as an American history icon. We will be finishing up the year with the study of poetry, which will include the works of Edgar Allan Poe and Shel Silverstein, among other famous poets.



As always, students should be reading their AR books for twenty minutes each night to achieve their fourth quarter AR goals. The Stripes team would also like to congratulate Rachel Forbach, who earned 1,000 AR points this month! Way to go Rachel!

