



Third Grade Newsletter

January 2023

Happy New Year!

Important Dates

Tuesday, January 3rd - Schools reopen

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, January 11th, 12th and 13th - CBA test
(Comprehension Benchmark Assessment)

Monday, January 16th - Schools closed for MLK holiday

Wednesday, January 25th and Thursday, January 26th - Math Mid-Year Benchmark test

Thursday, January 26th - End of Quarter 2

Parent/Teacher Conference night - teacher request

Friday, January 27th and Monday, January 30th - Schools closed for students

Reminders

Please make sure your child brings a jacket or sweatshirt to school. Students will be outside for recess on most days.

Please continue to monitor your child's pencil pouch for any needed supplies.

We are always appreciative of tissue and plastic sandwich and gallon bag donations!

What are we learning?

Math

This month in math we will be finishing up our Fractions Unit and beginning our next Multiplication unit while we prepare for our Mid-Year Assessment. This benchmark test will cover concepts from our first three units and parts of unit 4. The test is scheduled for January 25th and 26th. Benchmark review calendars were sent home on December 12th. This is a great way to review a little at a time.

Science

In science we will begin our Inheritance and Variation of Traits unit. Please see attached parent letter for more information.

Humanities

In Social Studies, we will be learning about Martin Luther King Jr and his contributions to our country. In ELA, we will be working on non fiction texts and identifying main idea and supporting details. We will continue writing informational essays. We will also begin learning Cursive!

Stay in Touch!

Please reach out to your child's teacher with any questions or concerns!

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Third Grade Science

Inheritance and Variation of Traits

Dear Families,

Here is what your child is learning in Third Grade during the study of inheritance and variation of traits and some specific ways you can help. Look for additional newsletters for upcoming units.

Inheritance and Variation of Traits

Students will be able to:

- Identify that organisms have unique and diverse life cycles but all share the process of birth, growth, reproduction, and death.
- Identify and explain that plants and animals have traits that are inherited from parents and a variation of these traits exists in a group of similar organisms.
- Identify that traits can be influenced by the environment and variations in characteristics among individuals of the same species may provide advantages in surviving, finding mates, and reproducing.

Key Vocabulary

Metamorphosis- change of form

Simple Metamorphosis- egg – nymph – adult

Complete Metamorphosis – egg – larva – pupa – adult

Traits – qualities or features or other things that distinguish the organism

Acquired Traits – traits that cannot be passed on genetically, acquired characteristics over time

Inherited Traits – passed on genetically, must come from parents or grandparents

Discovery Education Links:

Insect Life Cycles: [Insect Life Cycles: Metamorphosis](#)

Heredity and Traits: [Heredity and Traits](#)

Inherited Traits: [Inherited Trait](#)

Acquired Traits: [Acquired Traits](#)

How Plants Adapt: [How Plants Adapt](#)

Ways FAMILIES Can Help

- Use the Discovery Education links to learn more information.
- Be attentive to the plants and animals around you.
- Discuss with your parents' different traits that you have inherited from them (hair color, eye color, height etc.)
- Look for different ways plants and animals adapt to their environment.