



# 5th Grade Updates

February 8, 2019

Exciting Events	Willow Creek Community
<p><b>February 15:</b> Friendship Party (low-key Valentine's Day) 2-3pm</p> <p><b>February 18-22:</b> Mid-Winter Break</p> <p><b><u>Some things to look forward to:</u></b></p> <p><b>March 12:</b> MMWD fieldtrip</p> <p><b>March 13-20:</b> MAP testing</p> <p><b>March 19:</b> Life Science Info Night</p> <p><b>March 22 &amp; 25:</b> No school-Conferences</p> <p><b>March 29-30:</b> In-Classroom Overnight! (Mark your calendars!)</p> <p><b>April 1-5:</b> Life Science Unit</p> <p><b>May 21-25</b> Outdoor School (Mark your calendars!)</p>	<p>The life skill of the month of February is <b>Tolerance</b>.</p> <p>Please complete the annual Parent Survey: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WCA201819">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WCA201819</a></p> <p><b><u>In-classroom Overnight:</u></b> As a way to prepare students and families for being apart for our 4-day Outdoor School, we spend the night at school. We will be playing games outside, having a bonfire on campus, and sleeping in the classrooms! <b>We need chaperones to spend the night</b>, at least 2 male for the boys room and 2 female for the girls room. Please let your classroom parent know whether you can be there!</p>

## Curriculum Corner

### **Math:**

This week we continued our work with DECIMALS between 0 and 1. Students had two small formative assessments, which allow us teachers to see who we need to support toward gaining mastery with discrete skills: ordering and comparing fractions, and determining place value of digits to the right of a decimal point. Students also used visual decimal grids to add decimals.

Applied practice: You can look up weather. Ask "What was the total rainfall last week?" or track your favorite teams wins and losses record.

### **Science**

After last week's figuring out where to dig a well, we reviewed the water cycle, and asked "Can we make it Rain?" We figured out, through a rather complex experiment, that the SUN causes water to vaporize, or turn into water gas, and the cold air in the atmosphere causes the vapor to condense back into liquid. Then as an engineering problem, we used Hurricane Katrina as an example of how we could a city to protect it from a hurricane. Students were levee, structural, environmental, and seawall engineers who had to budget a plan to protect historical buildings.

### **Reading**

READ, READ, READ! In preparation of the reading load in middle school, 5th graders set a new goal of reading 1 book at their level per week! We are dedicating 15-20 minutes daily in class time and beefing up reading homework to at least 30 minutes to help reach this goal.

Students continue to read historical fiction during the early colonial period: Indian Captive (true story), Chains, Arrow Over the Door, The Witch of Blackbird Pond, The Sign of the Beaver, Blood on the River, and The Color of Fire.

**ELA/Social Studies - Unit 3: The Road to Revolution**

We introduced the many causes that lead up to the American Revolution. Everything from the other European powers wanting land, to the Colonists not wanting to be under British control any more (let alone pay them taxes, and be told that they weren't allowed to go past the Appalachian Mountains). We defined some key words for the Revolution - revolt, Patriot, Loyalist, rebel, Minuteman, treason. We are reading a book aloud called, My Brother Sam is Dead, by John Lincoln Collier, about a young boy whose Father is a Loyalist, and whose brother is a Patriot. This book will give some insight into the many different sides there were in pre-Revolutionary days. We'll be doing projects, reading and researching the Revolution, and talking about which side you might have taken if you were there at the time.

**References**

[Homework Calendar Link](#)

**Math:**

Website: [www.pearsonrealize.com](http://www.pearsonrealize.com)

Login: Willow Creek email address --

For most students that is [firstinitiallastname@stu.willowcreekacademy.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@stu.willowcreekacademy.org)

**Example:** [jdoe@stu.willowcreekacademy.org](mailto:jdoe@stu.willowcreekacademy.org)

Password: Wca31 \_ \_ \_ (followed by their student number) **Ex:** Wca31000

Website: [Dreambox](#)

Login: <https://play.dreambox.com/login/z7a8/willowca>

Username: (firstinitial)(lastname) **Example:** jschmidt

Password: Wca31 \_ \_ \_ (followed by their student number) **Ex:** Wca31000

[Multiplication Blaster Game](#)

[Multiplication Games](#)

**Science:**

Website: [Mystery Science](#) Our current unit is Watery Planet!

**Contact Info:**

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**5th Grade Specials:**

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2:20-3:00	8:35-9:00 <b>Library</b> (every other week) 1:10-2:00	10:20-11:10 <b>Music</b> (Schmidt) <b>Art</b> (St. Denny)	10:20-11:00 <b>P.E.</b>

<b>P.E.</b>	<b>Music</b> (St. Denny) <b>Art</b> (Schmidt )		
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