



# 5th Grade Updates

November 30, 2018

Exciting Events	Willow Creek Community
<p><b>Not exciting, but important:</b> <u>December 3-7: MAP testing 8:45-10:00am</u></p> <p><u>December 21: Winter Break begins</u> <u>January 7, 2019: School resumes</u></p>	<p><b>Next week we are doing morning assembly!</b> On the day your child signed up, please make sure they are at the <b>MPR by 8:00!</b> Click the link to find out when: <a href="#">Morning Assembly Schedule</a></p> <p><b>Changes in HOMEWORK:</b> We are adding writing homework as an extension to classwork. We still want students to stay within the 50 minutes of homework, so we ask they do math, writing, and geography first, then use any extra time for reading.</p> <p>MAP testing starts <b>Monday!</b> Please make sure students are coming to <b>school on time, fully rested</b> and with <b>breakfast</b> in their bellies. You can pack an extra testing snack if you'd like!</p> <p>In Ms. St. Denny's class, Helene Franks changed schools to St. Hilary's, she will be missed!</p> <p>Oh, a note about Schmidt's class - Sloane moved to Florida :(</p>

## Curriculum Corner

### Math:

As promised.....we started MULTIPLICATION again! Get excited because we are teaching the US Standard Algorithm for multiplication!! In class, students are understanding the algorithm, because they know what the numbers are composed of - ones, tens and hundreds. We also will start next week, reviewing DIVISION and deepening our understanding there as well.

REVIEW math facts to 12 with your students - when doing the US algorithm, there's a lot of single digit multiplication and CONCISE AND ACCURATE NOTATION is essential!

### Science

We have been tracking our "mold terrariums" this week. Students are taking notes on what kind of mold is growing, and noticing what happens to the 'host' as the mold colonizes it. This week we worked with this question: "WHY DO YOU NEED TO CLEAN A FISH TANK, BUT NOT A FISH POND?" This week we learned about how plants, animals, and decomposers interact in an ecosystem. Students played a game to build their own pond ecosystems balancing the carbon dioxide levels of the consumers & decomposers with the producers.

You can support your child's curiosity by taking a trip to the pet shop. As you have fun looking at all the different kinds of aquatic animals, ask: how are the tanks kept oxygenated and free of waste?

### **Reading**

We are finishing our Lit Circle books during Academic Choice time right after lunch, and we are starting our new unit of WRITING. We'll be practicing reading informational texts also as we write our research texts in this writing unit.

### **Writing**

We'll be writing two informational texts on the Colonial Era. Research, note-taking, organizing, will all be important parts of this practice. We'll be writing about "The Colonies" in our first book, and diving deeper into one colony in our second book.

**NOTE:** Homework will be writing instead of reading for the next three weeks until break. The agenda will have a writing log on it, with each night's homework assignment. They'll bring home writing materials, and return them to school each day. The same 50 minute homework window applies, but students will work on their writing instead of reading for that portion of the time.

Students are working towards the standard, "examine a topic and convey information and ideas clearly." They'll be "engaging in research, including keeping track of and citing relevant sources."

The format of the text will be:

Introduction  
Section I  
Section II  
Section III  
Conclusion

### **ELA/Social Studies - Unit 2: Colonization of North America**

This past week we learned about the 13 Colonies, and we examined them by region - New England, Middle and Southern. We studied the geography of each region, and began to talk about the interactions between the Europeans and the Native Americans.

## **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 Web of Life!

**Contact Info:**

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**5th Grade Specials:**

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