Leap into LITERACY

Middletown Township Public Schools

Grade 5 | Issue 7 | May/June 2013

Nonfiction Writing

WRITING WORKSHOP-"BREATHING LIFE INTO ESSAYS"

The goal is for students to:

- Develop a repertoire of strategies for collecting ideas
- Free write and write at length, trusting that their ideas will develop as they follow their thoughts

Phrases to push student thinking may include:

furthermore..... *on the other hand.....*

this makes me think..... *the surprising thing.....*

To see how one teacher confers with students, go to http://vimeo.com/56067219

Working with Words

Did you know that between 60-80% of English vocabulary is based on roots, prefixes and suffixes?

Many of our fifth graders are now at the "derivational relations stage" of spelling development. As such, open sorts (students determine categories) as well as closed sorts (teacher determines categories) using science, social studies and mathematical vocabulary words should be taught.

Go to www.onelook.com for a comprehensive dictionary, which will help students in their sorts!!

Research shows that children who don't read over the summer have a greater chance of falling behind at the beginning of the next school year. Let's not let this happen! Daily summer reading will help children maintain and strengthen their reading level in September. Encourage your students to increase their reading fluency and comprehension skills by promoting reading over the summer.

One way to ensure continued reading success is to set reading goals. This will help them become even better readers! Here are some examples of goals:

- ✓ I will read for _____ minutes everyday.
- ✓ I will read a variety of different genres and texts.
- ✓ I will make connections when I read.
- ✓ I will read everywhere...at home, at the beach, at the park.

Remind your students about the Required Summer Reading!

Book Lists and Assignments are posted on the District's website http://mtps.schoolwires.net

Make sure they check the list for students entering Grade 6!

Assignments are due to their 6th Grade teachers in September!

Bonkers for Books

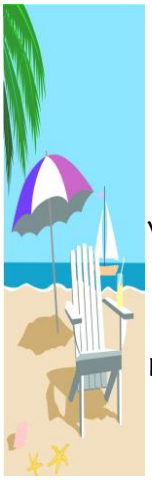
Summer is a great time to explore new books, authors, and series! The International Reading Association has released its 2013 Choices Reading Lists. Visit their website to view the children's, young adults', and teachers' choice lists.

Children's Choices

Young Adults' Choices

Teachers' Choices

Teacher's Corner



As the school year comes to an end, take some "me" time this summer to reflect on this past year…

What were your successes?

What would you like to improve for next year?

What are your goals for a new class and for yourself?

Find your favorite place for some much needed reflection!

Enjoy!