

# Mrs. McKoon's Newsletter

Grades 5-7

Spring Edition  
April 2008

## Spring Science Fair for Grades 6, 7, & 8

This spring, all three grades in Junior High Science will be required to select a Science Project to test and record their results. Each student has been given deadlines by Mrs. Link in order to get themselves organized and on a time-line for completion of one of the most important Science assignments of the year.

The first assignment was to turn in the **topic** that they had selected (March 31). Next, each student was to formulate a rough draft of their **hypothesis** and **procedure** (April 4). Poster headings for their display boards were to have been created either at home or in the computer-lab and shown to Mrs. Link (April 7).

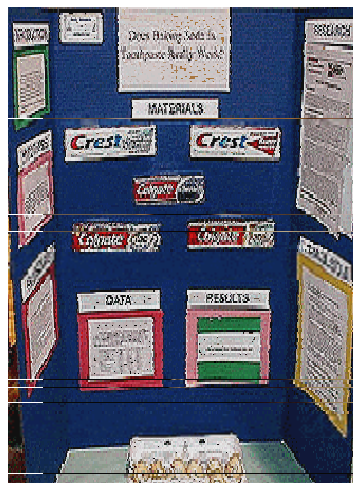
On April 14, the handwritten draft of their **Topic, Problem, Hypothesis, and Procedure** are to be turned in to Mrs.

Link for her approval.

By April 21, their **Results** and **Conclusion** are due. This requires that each student conduct their experiment and record the results. Students will need to write a one paragraph description of their results and a one paragraph conclusion. The conclusion paragraph will explain whether their results supported their hypothesis or disproved their hypothesis.

On April 28, the poster, or display board, and the formally written paper are due. An **Abstract** should be included with the outline of their science project. An Abstract is a summary of the purpose of the project, the hypothesis, the results, and the conclusion in a nicely written but brief essay.

A **Data Table** must be included in the outline write up to visually indicate the results.



Science Fair display board sample

Instructions for doing the write-up are in a packet from Mrs. Link. If you have any questions about the assignment, be sure to contact your child's teacher.

## Decimals, Decimals, Decimals

The 5th grade level math students are currently studying decimals. They are learning the place value of decimals up to one hundred thousandths place, rounding decimals, adding and subtracting decimals, estimating sums and differences to the nearest whole number, mental math strategies, multiplying decimals, using zeros in

division of decimals, and multi-step problem solving.

It is important to be able to use decimals accurately. We have worked with computing sales tax, fractions (decimal form) of a whole number or whole number with a decimal, and explored real-life decimal examples.

We must continue to drill on multiplication facts in order to do long-division, and review subtraction involving borrowing in order to perform the operations accurately.

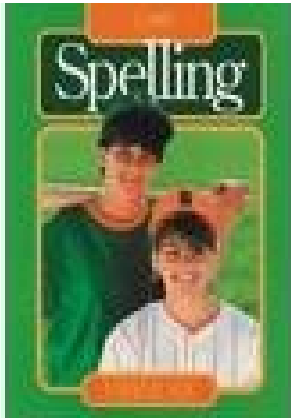
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### Special points of interest:

- Science Fair Exhibit-May2nd
- 5th Grade field trip to Kibbe Station is May 2nd
- 6th Grade trip to Hannibal is May 12th
- Final draft for Science Fair (Results and Conclusion) is due on April 21st for grades 6, 7, & 8
- Poster and Final Paper for Science Fair are due April 28th

## Spelling



### Junior High Spelling

Junior High Spelling is winding down toward the end of the year. Words are to be repetitively written on Mondays, packets are to be completed by Thursdays, and the final test is given on Fridays.

Most students score 75% or better. It is important that they practice their words before the test on Friday.

## Homework

**Please check with your child daily to see if they have completed the work they have been assigned. Many times, low grades are due to assignments not being turned in.**

## Spring Events:

Friday, April 11– Fine Arts Dessert Night, 7:00pm @ the LaHarpe Gym

Fri., April 18–School Improvement: 12:45 dismissal

Fri., April 25– 5th Grade Field Trip to Keokuk

Sat. , April 26– IESA Organizational Contest @ Rushville

Fri., May 2– 5th grade to Kibbe Station

Elementary Music Program, grades K-4 at 1:30

JH Science Fair

Wed., May 7- 5th-8th Spring Concert in Gym, 7:00 pm

Mon., May 12– 6th Grade Field Trip to Hannibal

Tues., May 13–Junior High Awards Night

Wed., May 21–School Improvement Day, dismiss at 12:45

Thurs., May 22– Teacher Inst. No School

Fri., May 23—Report Card Day Dismiss at 10:00–buses will run on this day



## Tom Sawyer

Since the 6th Grade Field Trip will be Hannibal MO, the sixth grade Language Arts classes will be reading the novel Tom Sawyer. Also, Reading Logs will be due at the beginning of May, as in the previous months. Each student is required to read 400 minutes plus

take an AR test by the end of the quarter.

Please encourage your child to read at home and in their spare time. Reading Logs must be signed by a parent or responsible adult before turning in to Mrs. Faul.

