

Technology Newsletter

April/May 2022

The countdown has begun to the final weeks of the school year! Please read on to learn more about what we've been working on in our Information Literacy classes.

Grade 3:

Third graders have begun using the inquiry model to learn more about the topic of Poverty. Students have been working on:

- Making connections focusing on previous knowledge relating to Poverty
- Learning that “Presearch” is a step that focuses on gathering information and generating questions about their topic before conducting research
- Taking notes while listening to the read aloud, “Poverty and Hunger” by Louise Spilsbury and Hanane Kai
- Brainstorming questions relating to Poverty using the Question Formulation strategy
- Learning and categorizing questions as open or closed
- Prioritizing questions based on their importance, helpfulness, or interest
- Using a graphic organizer to record thoughts, ideas, and questions

In the upcoming weeks students will learn about “[scholarly](#)” sources to help them gather information they can trust to answer their question(s). Students will be introduced to the resource, [PebbleGo Next](#), where they will practice using nonfiction text features to find important information. In addition, students will practice finding and citing their source to give credit for the notes gathered within it.

Grade 4:

Fourth graders have been learning more about Alternative Energy in the past several weeks. Students have been working on:

- Connecting to the topic of Alternative Energy, sharing what they already know about this topic, including any background knowledge
- Reviewing the “[Presearch](#)” step in an effort to determine whether they need to stop and gather additional information
- Gathering facts and choosing an Alternative Energy focus to proceed with research (choices include: geothermal, solar, water, or wind energy)
- Using the Question Formulation strategy to brainstorm questions on their chosen Alternative Energy topic
- Choosing a focus question to guide their research investigation
- Reviewing and choosing a scholarly source after sampling a variety of different articles
- Taking notes using an appropriately selected article to answer their focus question
- Identifying a self-selected goal be it academic or social-emotional to set a purpose for the third trimester

In the coming weeks, students will work to wrap up their Alternative Energy research projects. Students will review how to cite sources, select a secondary source to check the accuracy of their information, and share knowledge gained using digital tools. Feel free to visit your child(ren)’s Google Classroom to view their work.

Grade 5:

Fifth graders participated in the school-wide Day of Service to raise money, awareness, and express their learning of global issues with others in the school community. This culmination of their global research really made a meaningful impact on students who could see the effects of their efforts. We encourage you to view the video celebrating this special day by clicking on the link found [here](#).

Students will be wrapping up the year by working collaboratively to create their own digital “If/Then Adventure” stories. Students will utilize a variety of digital skills to collaborate using Google Slides. The end product will link collaborative work sessions and products together for others to enjoy!

Day of Service

Our annual Day of Service was an overwhelming success! Thank you to all the families who generously participated and donated items to make this day such a special one for our students and school community. Please enjoy our video highlighting the many activities, speakers, and student participation by clicking on the link found [here](#).

Digital Learning Day - 2/22/22

If you haven't already viewed our Digital Learning Day presentation, found in the Digital Backpack, feel free to access it by clicking [here](#).

Digital Opportunities From Home:

- All students can practice their keyboarding skills using our typing program, [Typing Club](#), found in their Colchester Bookmarks (JJIS Links) to practice keyboarding skills. Click [here](#) to check it out!
- All students can build their coding skills using [Tynker](#), our coding program, also found in Colchester Bookmarks (JJIS Links) to extend the Hour of Code at home! Click [here](#) to check it out!

Please note that for Typing Club and Tynker students should “Log in with Google.”

Feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns at the email addresses below!

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