

A background of light blue and purple rain falling on a white surface.

**Gackle-Streeter  
School District**

A background of a field of colorful flowers (yellow, pink, orange, purple) with green stems and leaves.

**Newsletter**

**April 2022**

## Superintendent Newsletter April 2022

Spring time! I What an exciting time of the year. We hear the return of the geese, we experience longer days with warmer air and outdoor activity begins to pick up. It is also the season for baby calves and spring planting with the hopes for another prosperous year. The sooner we get to those warmer days the better in my opinion! We have made up two days that we missed due to stormy weather. Hopefully we are done with that!

As we enter the last quarter of the school year, please remember to support our students both in and out of the classroom. As the winter activity seasons comes to an end, there will be many spring activities and opportunities to show support for our students. We will be starting the spring sports schedule which includes track, golf, and baseball. This time of the year also includes other extra-curricular activities such as Science Olympiad, Acalympics, FFA competitions, music competitions, prom, and the final push towards graduation which is always an exciting time for all involved.

There are tentative plans for a basketball camp in Napoleon on June 27-30 for grades 1-6, AND a camp in Gackle on July 11-14 for grades 4-8. Please keep an eye out for more details.

The ND State Fire Marshal was out for an evaluation of the school. Century Code now requires all public buildings have a fire alarm system that communicates with 911. The school is in the process have having this update installed. All other areas of the school are in good standing.

I will be offering Hunter's Safety to the community this spring. Please see the page in this newsletter that relates that class. This is not a school sponsored event but it will be held at the school. If you have any questions about the class, please contact me personally at 701 709-0467.

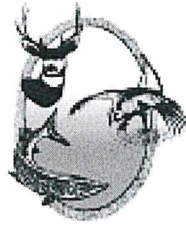
If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please call the Gackle-Streeter School District Office at 485-3692.

Sincerely,

Supt. Mark Berg



2022 North Dakota Game and Fish Dept.  
Hunter's Safety Class



Gackle North Dakota

INSTRUCTOR: Mark Berg  
(701) 709-0467

LOCATION: GACKLE-STREETER SCHOOL  
300 2<sup>ND</sup> AVE. E  
GACKLE, ND 58442

DATES: APRIL 19,20,21  
25,26,27,28

TIME: 3:30-6:30PM

\*\*Youth must turn 11 yrs. old by 12/31/2022. Open to the public



- 1) Log onto North Dakota Game and Fish website: [gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov)
- 2) Click on the "EDUCATION" heading at the top of the page
- 3) Click "Enroll in a class"
- 4) Find GACKLE on the left-hand side of the page
- 5) Click on "enroll" on the right-hand side of the page
- 6) Fill out the online form
- 7) Click "add enrollment"



April 2022

# PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

FROM THE DESK OF MRS. BUCKEYE



## Just a quick note.....

We have had a lot of great things happening in our school this last month. It has been a very busy place. It is hard to showcase all the honors and privileges in this short little newsletter. Make sure you ask your kids about the exciting things they have been doing and accomplishing in school. Also, check out our school website, Facebook page, and school app. Many pictures are posted, and news from the classrooms are shared in these locations.

Very often we get caught up in the negativity and forget to celebrate all the positives we have in our lives. When someone is doing something positive- be sure to acknowledge it. Give them a compliment. It's very simple- be positive, be truthful, make sure you truly believe what you say, be specific, think about what you admire about the person, and consider their strengths and talents. This month I am challenging you to give more compliments, look for the positive in people, and share with them what you see. You will find that when lifting another person up, you too will feel better.

## WHAT'S COMING UP

### APRIL EVENTS

April 7<sup>th</sup>- County Health Nurse will be visiting with 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade about our growing and changing body

April 8<sup>th</sup> - Early dismissal- 12:30  
Professional Development for teachers and staff

April 9<sup>th</sup>- Music contest in Kulm

April 12<sup>th</sup>-Bookmobile

April 14<sup>th</sup> - FFA Banquet at 5:30

April 15<sup>th</sup>- NO SCHOOL

April 18<sup>th</sup>- NO SCHOOL

April 19<sup>th</sup>-AIMS Web testing window opens for elementary students



## SAFETY

- ✓ Track season has begun. Please be cautious of our athletes as they are training outdoors and will be running on the streets.
- ✓ With the weather being so nice you will see more children outside after school- please drive with caution.



## TESTING

- ✓ We have started our North Dakota State Assessments. Students in grades 3-8 and 10 are tested in math and reading. Students in grades 4,8, and 10 are also tested in science.
- ✓ Students in grades K-6 will also begin testing in AIMS web on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

April 19<sup>th</sup> - Hunter's Safety Class begins at the school from 3:30-6:30

April 20<sup>th</sup> - I Am Resilient training

April 22<sup>nd</sup> - Pre-School Screening

April 22<sup>nd</sup> - Coffee with the Kids 9:00-9:30

April 27<sup>th</sup> - Astronomy Field Trip in Valley City

April 30<sup>th</sup> - GSPS Prom



## MONTHLY SHOUT OUTS

The following students and staff have been recognized this month for going out of their way to being **EXTRA AMAZING**. Thanks students and staff--keep up the great work. *Speech team, Acalympic team, Archers, Musicians, Spelling-Bee participants, Student Council representatives, athletes, teachers, students, staff, board members, and community members*--- We have had an incredible year full of changes we have embraced and learned from. Let's make this last quarter of 2022 the best one yet!!!

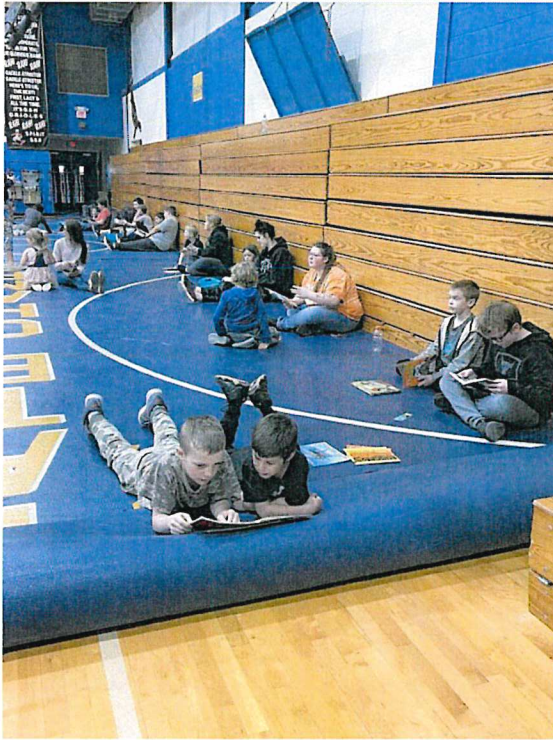


## READING MONTH

We've had such a blast during reading month. The students have participated in multiple activities including D.E.A.R time, dress up days, buddy reading, and book activities. Thanks for all the continued parent support, we really appreciate it!











# Kindergarten News

March was a month spent learning about measurement and decomposing numbers in Math.

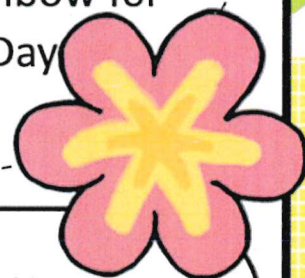
In science we have been studying ocean animals. Social Studies we have been learning about listening, being assertive, and how to properly respond to people.

We have been working on our letters, blending and segmenting words in Phonics.

We have been reading about plants in reading class. We look forward to a fun April!

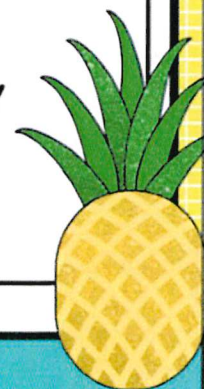
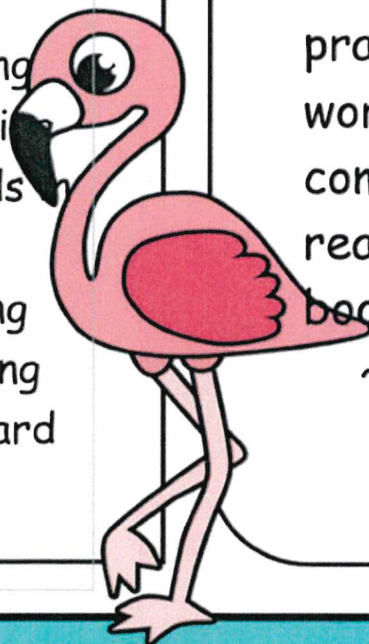


Exploding rainbow for St. Patick's Day



Reminder: Keep practicing sight words and completing the reading in their book bag! :)

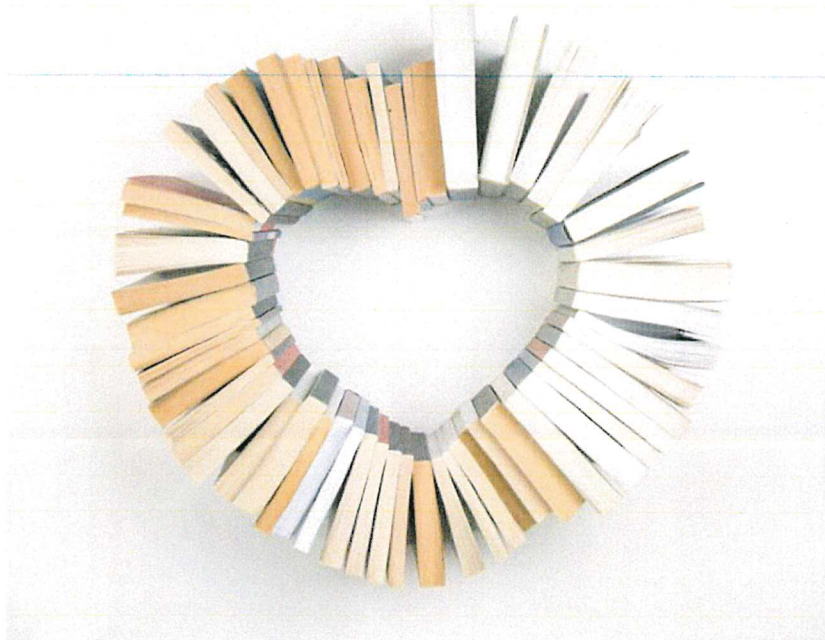
~ Mrs. Sealey





# Attention:

Our 4<sup>th</sup> quarter AR  
celebration will be  
Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022!!

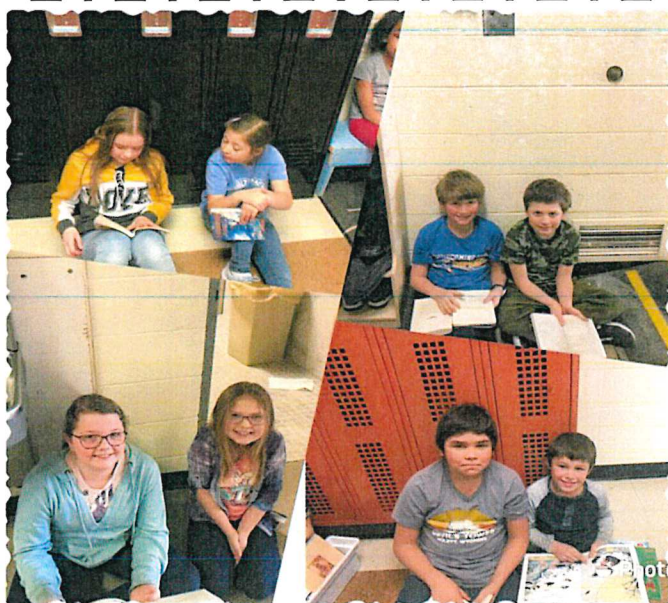




# 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade News

A Peek At The Fun March Has Brought Us!

## Buddy Read



## St. Patrick's Day Science!



## Dr. Seuss's Birthday



## A Note From Mrs. Selgman

April is the month of HOPE. This month we will focus on ways to bring hope to our community, loved ones, friends, and classmates. We ask that you do the same. You can a ray of hope by providing wisdom, time, kindness, or donations.





2022

# Region 5 GSPS Acalympics Team

## High School Division:

- Dauson Kleingartner
- Jayce Rivinius
- Jessi Kleingartner
- Anizye Grode
- Abby Rivinius
- Kaitlyn Homola

## Junior High Division

- Izabel Rivinius
- Ali Gross
- Brooke Homola
- Bridger Rivinius
- Gentry Nenow
- Greta Haag

*Students competed in Linton on March 14<sup>th</sup>*



**Congratulations**  
to

## Eli Carlson

Eli competed in the North Dakota STATE Spelling Bee on March 21<sup>st</sup>, in Bismarck, ND. We are so proud of you Eli!

**Pre-School Screening**  
is scheduled for April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022  
at the school.

*Call the office if you have any questions.*



**POPPY SEED POSTER CONTEST**  
Students Grades 2-12 will be participating  
Thanks to our WOMAN's Auxiliary!

## April 8<sup>th</sup> - Early Dismissal- 12:30

Teacher's Professional Development Day

Brandy Ulland from the SEEC  
will be our Guest Speaker.

## NO SCHOOL



April 15<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>

# Coffee with Kids

Shout out to Cotteau Cottage for donating the coffee for this event—thank you for sharing with us.

*Thanks everyone for coming out to support our amazing readers!*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2022

## FROM 9:00-9:30

## HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM



## Mrs. Sako's Science News

Two months left of school and we have accomplished a lot so far this year.

--7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade are learning about our solar system and Earth's place in it. We've been watching how astronauts eat and exercise in the ISS. Their trip to UJ for Tech savvy and STEMtastic were really enjoyed.

--9<sup>th</sup> grade are working on sewable electronic projects (making stuffed animals that light up) to learn about circuits.

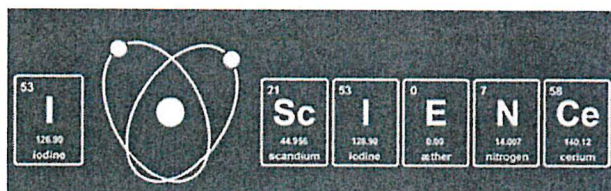
--10<sup>th</sup> grade are finishing the year learning all about ecology. Can they keep a fish and plant alive?

--Chemistry students are working in a project based learning curriculum and each unit has a mystery to solve.

--Physics students, along with their regular lessons, are working on genius hour projects in which they have to solve a societal problem. Some projects look at mental health, waste water or driver's safety.

--Astronomy students have spent a great deal of time designing lunar habitats for life on the moon. There is a lot of planning to make sure enough supplies are brought to the moon so people can live there.

Astronomy students will also be taking a field trip to VCSU's planetarium on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Parents, look for permission slips the week before.

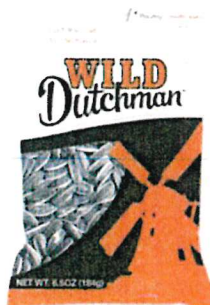


## SUNFLOWER SEED FUNDRAISER

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be selling sunflower seeds from April 1<sup>st</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Cost \$3:00 per 6.5 oz bag. (Regular flavor only)

Payment is due at time of order. Payment can be made on the school website under E-Funds (minimum \$5 order), or by cash or check to the student.







The GS Speech Team traveled to Linton on March 17<sup>th</sup> to compete (Finally!!) and had a great day! Hunter Griffith and Anizye Grode placed 8<sup>th</sup> overall with their Humorous Duo, “Fly, Rudolph, Fly!” and Anizye placed 4<sup>th</sup> overall with her Dramatic Interpretation of “Rosa’s Lament”. The team travels to Marion on March 26<sup>th</sup> for the Regional Meet.





Spring is a busy time in the music room! The High School Choir just traveled to Oakes on March 15<sup>th</sup> for Region 6 Large Group contest. They performed two pieces and received two excellent ratings from the judges.

The following students will be traveling to Kulm on April 9<sup>th</sup> for Region 6 solo/ensemble contest: Dauson, Madie, Anizye, Izabel, Nariko, Richie, Bridger, Cooper, Gentry and Cora.

State Music contest is in Minot this year and that is on May 7<sup>th</sup> for those who receive a star rating at region competition.

We plan on having the Elementary Spring concert and "At the Bandstand" musical play on Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. The High School Spring/Pop's concert will be on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Keep an eye on the Oriole app or the Gackle-Streeter Music Notes Facebook page for any additions or changes!

Til next month, Happy Spring!

Mrs. Muller



Thirteen Gackle-Streeter music students attended the Young Musicians Festival in Casselton on Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. All thirteen students performed contest solos and the sixth-grade band performed a band selection. Students receiving Star ratings were Charlee Nenow – f horn solo, Mabelyn Metz – flute solo, Karly Rivinius – trumpet solo, and Emmett Nenow – alto saxophone solo. Students receiving Excellent ratings were: Sixth Grade band –

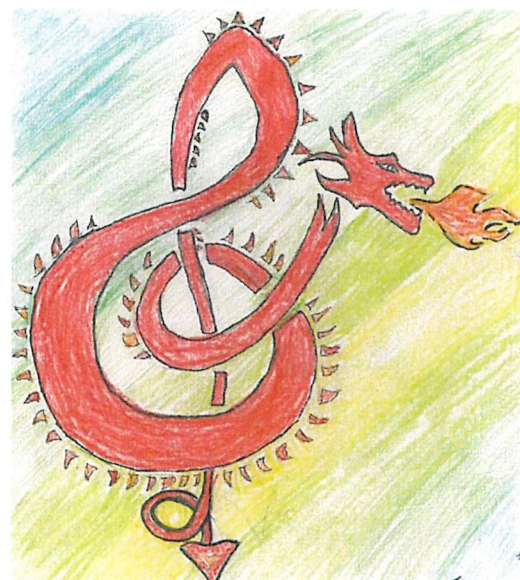
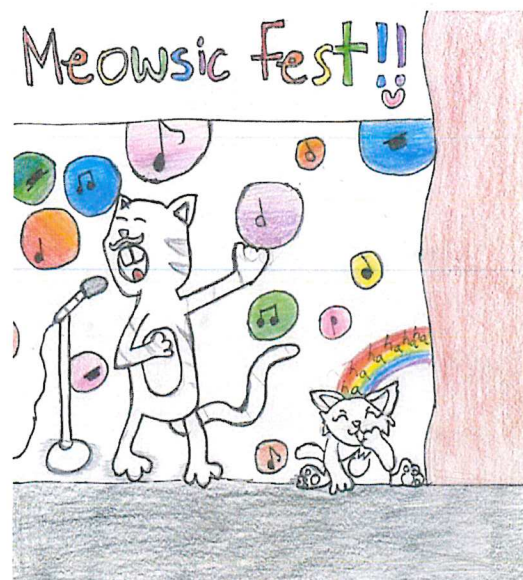
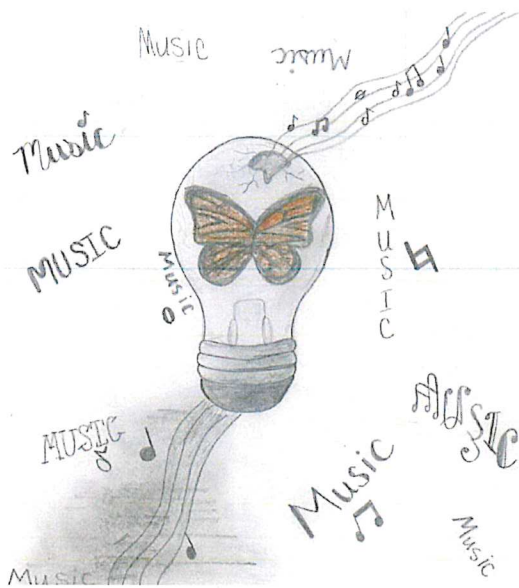
Stompin' Feet Blues, Chloe Carlson – flute solo, Lane Bartholomaus – snare solo, Jared Black – snare solo, Colter Muller – trumpet solo, Chase Martin – bell solo, Chase Zabka – xylophone solo, Travis Elison – clarinet solo. Receiving a Good rating was Jayce Storbeck. Karly Rivinius also received the Outstanding Performance award for her trumpet solo. Congratulations to everyone on a great job! The judges were again impressed by the performances of our students.

Note: missing in the picture is Chase Martin



Every January the First through Eighth grade music students work on MusicK8 cover contest entries for the May/June edition of the MusicK8 magazine. The top 9 entries receive a cash award, and the rest are listed in the magazine as either finalists or honorable mentions in two different main categories. Four Gackle-Streeter students are listed in this year's May/June edition. Karl Wicks with a Most Humorous Finalist award for his alien, Lyndi Homola with a Most Humorous Honorable Mention award for her singing cats, Brooke Homola with an Honorable Mention award for her dragon treble clef, and Courtney Remboldt with an Honorable Mention award for her Musical light bulb.

The contest is a nationwide contest, and they receive several thousand entries. To view the top winners and all of the other finalists go to, [music8.com](http://music8.com). The MusicK8 magazine is produced by Plank Road Publishing from Wisconsin and is a music resource publication for music teachers.

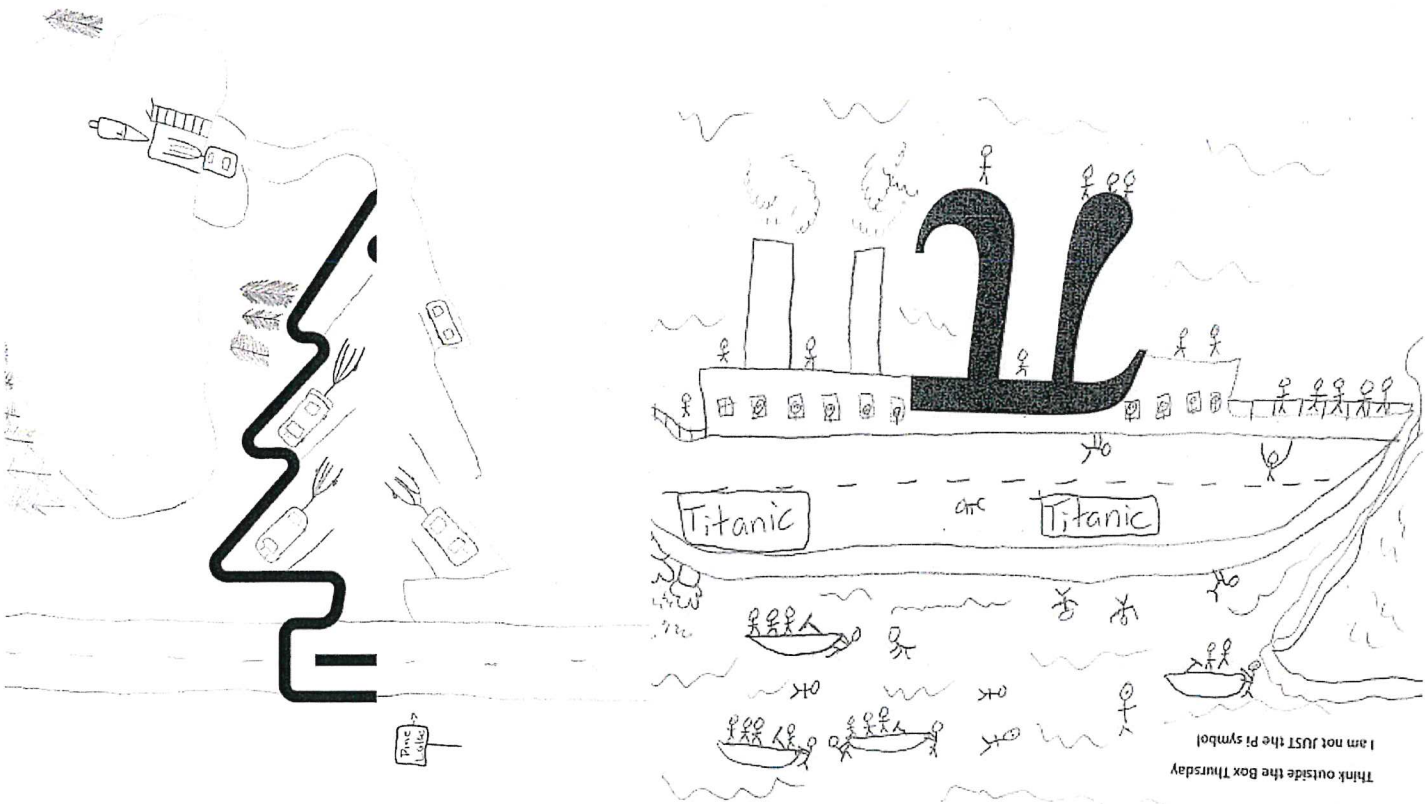


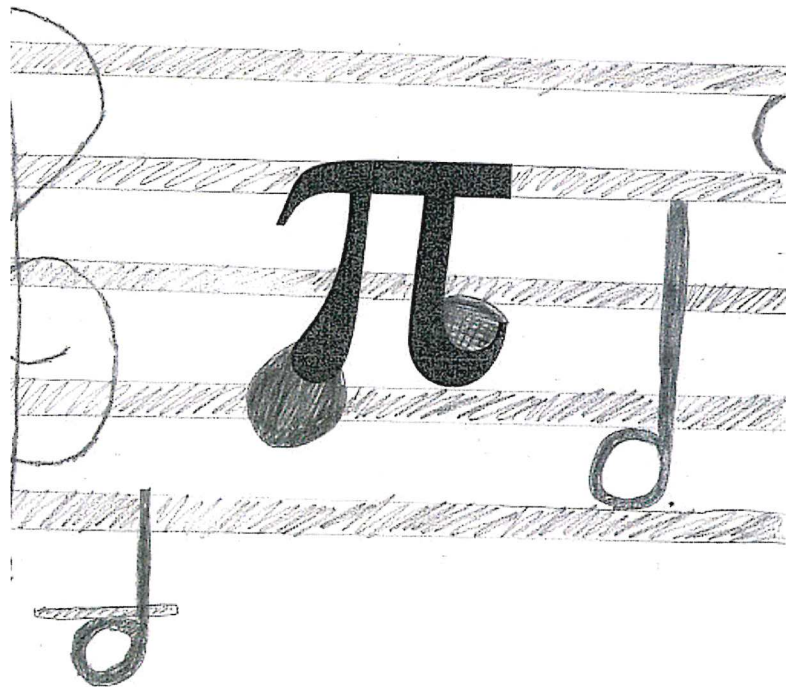
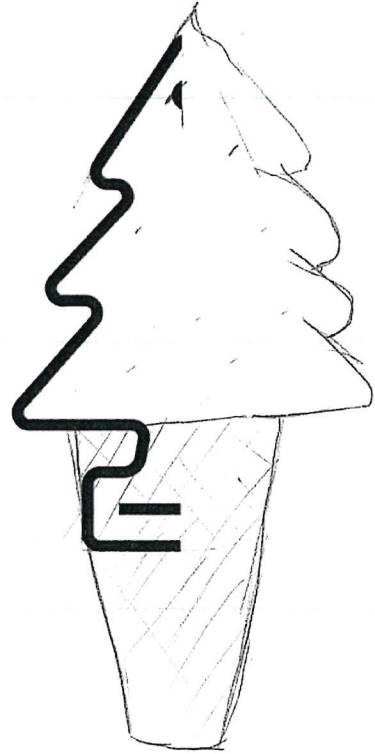
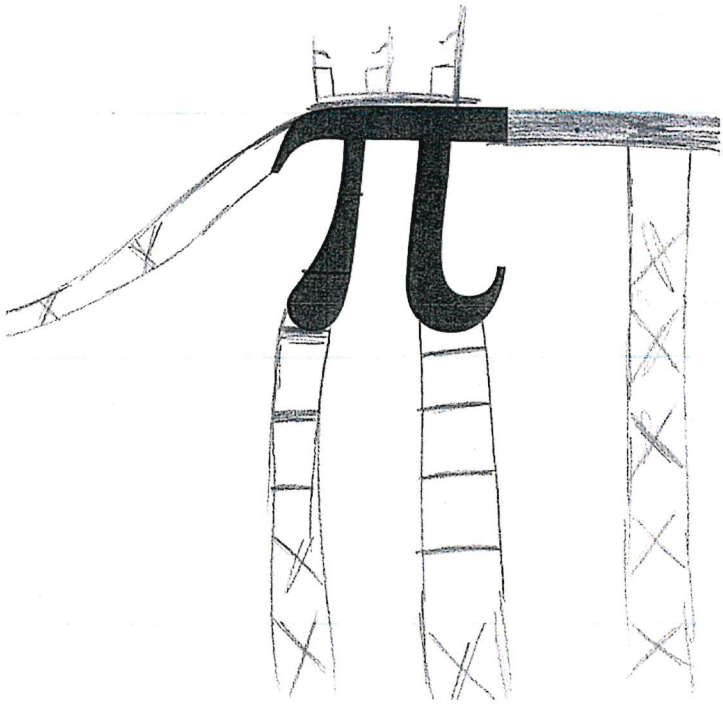


That lovely springing ahead time change surely messed this math teacher up! March 14<sup>th</sup> is commonly known as Pi Day. Why you may ask, well because the famous irrational number that is known as the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter is rounded to be 3.14. Pi day was the Monday after the time change, so needless to say the students did not receive pie that day! But I did make it up to them by serving pie on Wednesday. We celebrate just a little late, but better late than never! As we move into the month of April the students are hard at work. We have been busy with projects and individual learning! We continue to strengthen our math skills, one class period at a time!

On Thursdays we have continued doing Think Outside the Box drawings. Please enjoy the students' creativity. I shared a few below for you to enjoy too!

Miss Mairs







## Gackle-Streeter Prom 2022

Gackle-Streeter's Prom night will be held on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 8:00 pm. The doors will open for the community at 7:30 pm. Pictures for the attendees will start at 6:30 pm, please be here and ready to go by then. At 7:30 pm, the breathalyzer tests will start. After being breathalyzed, the attendees are NOT allowed to leave the building. Please be prepared for that by bringing anything if from the outside that you may need prior to 7:30.

Our Prom theme this year is Garden Romance. We will be surrounded by a beautiful array of soft pinks and lively greenery. Come and enjoy the evening put on by our GSPS Class of 2023.



## Sophomore Plant Sales

Order forms and payments are due to the school by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Delivery is going to be during the first week of May. Payments can be made online using eFunds link on school's website.

## Did you know?

- April was the second month in an early Roman calendar, but became the fourth when the ancient Romans started using January as the first month.
- April is named for the Greek goddess of love, Aphrodite.
- The name for the month of April originally came for *Aprilis* which means to open.
- Small animals that hibernate are usually coming out of their burrows in April. The birds fly back northward and settle down to have their families. The bees and butterflies begin to gather nectar from the first flowers of the season.
- In some parts of the world, it is planting time, while in other parts, it is the harvest season.
- April is Humor Month, so laugh it up!
- The birthstone for April is the diamond.
- The zodiac signs are Aries (March 21 – April 19) and Taurus (April 20-May 20).
- The birth flowers for the month of April are the sweet pea and the daisy.

## Historical moments in the month of April

- America's first astronauts were announced by [NASA](#) on April 9, 1959.
- The first [Webster](#) Dictionary was copyrighted by Noah Webster on April 14, 1828.
- The [Titanic](#) sank on April 15, 1912.
- The [Revolutionary War](#) in America began on April 19, 1775.
- The United States [Library of Congress](#) was established April 24, 1800.
- Our first President [George Washington](#) was inaugurated on April 30, 1789.

## Special Days in the month of April

- The first day of April is April Fools Day, when children and grown-ups play jokes on one another.
- April 22 is Earth Day.
- April 2 is Light It Up Blue for Autism Day and the whole month is Autism Awareness Month.
- Arbor Day is a day for planting trees, and it is observed on various April days.
- The Jewish festival of Pesach, or Passover, is celebrated early in April.
- Easter is almost always in April, and, with it comes other Christian celebrations such as Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday.
- April is also the month of the Thai New Year in Thailand and the Khmer New Year in Cambodia.





Sophomore class has a few coupon booklets left. They are on sale for **\$6.00** each due to expiration date in September. Grab your discounted booklet and save with over \$90.00 in coupons still available.

## 2021-2022 Yearbook Pre-Order

The 2021-2022 Yearbook is on sale now through May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022. We have changed our printing company and will no longer be required to order a minimum quantity of books. With that change, we will only order the number of yearbooks that have been reserved and paid for prior to final order date.

Be sure to complete the order form and return to the school with your payment prior to May 19<sup>th</sup> (the last day of school). An order form is included in this newsletter and you can even pay online using eFunds link on school's website.

## 2021-2022 YEARBOOK Order Form!

Please complete the following form and return to the school by May 19<sup>th</sup> to reserve your copy of the Gackle-Streeter Yearbook. We will be basing our quantity ordered on the number of yearbooks reserved and paid for, so there will not be a large amount of "extra" books ordered. MAKE SURE YOU RESERVE YOUR COPY.

Please print.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

# of yearbooks ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ **x \$20** Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

You can also pay online through eFunds on school's webpage.





# Agriculture Education

Our banquet has been postponed until April 14, 2022 at 5:30pm in the school gym. Invitations will be sent out soon. Please RSVP to Mrs. Hatlewick if you plan on attending for a food count. We are excited to announce and install the new officers and present awards for the year.

Be watching for the exciting Gackle-Streeter FFA Scholarship auction items soon. The members are working on building some really cool items this year.

We are beginning our plans to attend State Convention in June. Members will have to participate in at least one contest, all sessions and other activities throughout the week.

Some dates to watch for next year as they have changed on the state level, Fall Leadership-September 17-takes the place of Winter Leadership and District Leadership-week of December 5-takes place of October dates.

Be on the look out for our activities on the school website.

Here is to a Happy New Year and success in all our activities.

*Mrs. Hatlewick*



# ARCHERY

Wow! An amazing year for the Gackle-Streeter Archery program. We just completed the state tournament in Minot. We have lots to be proud of.

National qualifier, Karly Rivinius, 8th in Middle School girls Bullseye. Nationals is in May. All State High School Team member, Abby Rivinius, scored a 48 in the shoot-off of anyone scoring 280 or more in a local tournament. There were 32 archers in the shoot-off and the top 12 are on the All State Team. Varsity Tournament 2nd Place, Jayce Rivinius, earned himself a Gen X bow. I know he will be hunting with a bow soon. Other placings: 3D Elementary boys Colter Muller 14th, Eastyn Monson 38th, Emmett Nenow 48th, Deahgan Benson 67th 3D High School Girls Ali Gross 25th 3D High School boys Jayce Rivinius 39th, 3D Middle School Girls Karly Rivinius 30th, 3D Middle School Boys Luke Graber 21st, Gentry Nenow 26th, Cooper Rivinius 53rd, Jayce Storbeck 102nd, Cash Rivinius 118th, Bridger Rivinius 125th, Brenden Zenker 134th Richie Nenow 137th. Bullseye Elementary boys Colter Muller 32nd, Eastyn Monson 36th, Emmett Nenow 99th, Deahgan Benson 117th, Bullseye High School girls Abby Rivinius 11th, Ali Gross 46th, Lorelie Storbeck 67th, Bullseye High School boys Jayce Rivinius 37th, Bullseye Middle School boys Gentry Nenow 25th, Luke Graber 43rd, Cooper Rivinius 60th, Bridger Rivinius 98th,, Jayce Storbeck 125th, Brenden Zenker 130th Cash Rivinius 157th.

Our tournament raffle was a huge success. Congratulations to the winners of which several donated their winnings. \$200 Daren Graber, \$150 Byron Monson, \$100 Matthew Reister, \$75 Mike Wendel, and \$50 Ashley Ekren.

Remember to keep your sights on the **BULLS EYE!** Not only in archery but academically and personally. Our success in life depends on your goals you strive to achieve.

*Coach Hatlewick*





**Congratulations Jayce Rivinius! Jayce received an archery senior scholarship from NDYAAC. Each year the NDYAAC presents four seniors with a scholarship by random draw if they participate in the ND State NASP Archery Tournament.**

**Gackle-Streeter Archery is proud of our senior member. He will be missed next season. We wish him well at BSC next year.**



**2022 ND State NASP Archery Tournament participants.**





# KC-NGS Track 2022

This is a VERY tentative schedule. It WILL definitely change!

If an athlete is present at school they are expected to be at practice unless they talked to me BEFORE missing practice. Any skipped practices will be considered unexcused and will result in missing the next scheduled meet.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
21: First Practice	22:	23:	24:	25:	26:
28:	29:	30:	31:	<b>April 1:</b>	2:
4:	5: Varsity @ Hazen- 2 pm Leave- 11 am	6:	7:	8: Early Out- Practice at 12:45 pm	9:
11: JH @ Lisbon- 4 pm Leave- 2:15 pm	12: Varsity @ Hazen- 1 pm Leave- 10 am	13:	14:	15: NO SCHOOL	16:
18: NO SCHOOL	19: Varsity @ Fessenden- 3 pm Leave- 12:30 pm	20:	21: Varsity @ SCC Ellendale 3 pm Leave- 1:30 pm	22: Varsity @ Underwood- 3pm Leave- 12 pm	23: Varsity @ Washburn- 10:30 am Leave- 8am
25: Varsity @ Oakes- 2 pm Leave- 12pm	26: JH @ Oakes- 2pm Leave- 12pm	27:	28: JH @ SCC Linton- 3pm  Varsity @ Carrington- 3 pm Leave- 1:15 pm (Taryn)	29:	30: PROM
<b>May 2:</b> Varsity @ Oakes- 2pm Leave- 12pm	3:	4:	5: JH @ Oakes- 3pm Leave- 1pm	6: Varsity @ Shiloh -3 pm Leave- 1 pm	7: Varsity @ Carrington- 11 am Leave 9:15 am
9: HS Spring Concert	10: JH @ Carrington- 3:30 pm Leave- 1:45pm  Varsity @ Mandan- TBD (Taryn)	11:	12: Varsity @ Underwood- 3 pm Leave- 12pm	13: JH @ Ellendale- 4pm Leave- 2:30 pm	14: Varsity @ Fessenden- 10 am Leave- 7:30 am
16: Varsity @ Rugby- 3:30 pm Leave= 12:30 pm	17:	18:	19:	20: Varsity @ Regionals TBD	21:
23:	24:	25:	26: State	27: State	28: State



# Helping Children Learn<sup>®</sup>

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



April 2022

## Provide practice to help your child master math fundamentals

As students progress through the grades, the math they learn builds on the math that came before. That's why mastering basic math skills in elementary school is so important.

Regular practice is essential. It reinforces your child's knowledge and establishes positive math habits that will help her learn more.

To help your child build a solid math foundation:



- **Review math facts often.** Help your child make a set of flash cards with the facts she needs to know ( $6 \times 7$ ,  $12 - 5$  etc.). Pull them out frequently for short practice sessions. She has mastered a fact when she can give the correct answer in less than three seconds.
- **Show her how to find answers**, rather than just giving them to her. For example, if she doesn't know what  $3 \times 5$  equals, she can draw three parallel horizontal lines, and cross them with five vertical lines. Then she can count the intersections to get the answer.
- **Emphasize neatness.** Messy writing is the cause of many math errors. Using graph paper can help your child line numbers up neatly.
- **Encourage her to do a little extra.** If the teacher assigns ten problems, tackling 12 will give her more practice.
- **Have fun with "mental math."** See if your child can figure out a problem without writing anything down. Practice mental estimating, too.



## Boost your child's motivation to learn

Motivation to learn is like the engine in a car. Without it, your child won't get very far. To fuel your elementary schooler's motivation:

- **Let him see** that you always want to learn. Look up answers to questions. Try new things. Show curiosity.
- **Discuss interesting things** you learn with him. Talk about exciting new ideas or scientific discoveries.
- **Show interest** in his schoolwork. Ask questions to learn and share—not just to quiz him.
- **Demonstrate a positive** attitude about challenges. Help your child see that problems can be solved. If he is struggling in school, ask the teacher what you and your child can do at home to improve things.
- **Tell him that you know** he has the ability to learn. Your confidence in him can help him have more confidence in himself.

## Stop food-allergy bullying

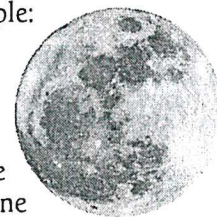
In a recent survey of children with food allergies, 31 percent reported being teased or bullied about their allergies by peers. But only 12 percent of their parents said they knew about the bullying. If your child has a food allergy, ask about her experiences. Alert the school to bullying so it can be stopped.

Source: F. Cooke and others, "Food Allergy-Related Bullying Among Children and Adolescents," *Journal of Pediatric Psychology*, Society of Pediatric Psychology.

## Build research skills with an online scavenger hunt

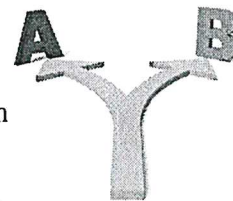
For fun improving research skills, give your child a list of questions that have only one correct answer. For example:

How many people have walked on the moon?  
What is the current temperature in the capital of Iowa? See how quickly he can find the answers online (without asking Siri or Alexa). Show him how he can use multiple key words to make his searches more effective.



## Foster wise decision-making

Giving your child opportunities to make decisions and helping her think them through is the best way to ensure that she will make wise choices when it counts. When offering choices:



- **Set boundaries.** All of the options you offer should be acceptable.
- **Discuss possible outcomes.** Talk about what could happen as a result of each of your child's options.
- **Help your child think** about what she's learned from past decisions.
- **Gradually increase** the number of decisions you let your child make.



# Helping Children Learn<sup>®</sup>

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School



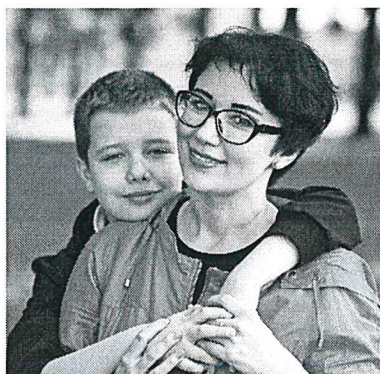
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

April 2022

## Q&A How can I make the move up to middle school easier?

**Q:** My fifth grader is getting anxious about going to middle school next year. Most of his friends will be going to another school. What can I do in the coming months to help?

**A:** The move to middle school involves lots of change—from one teacher to many, from being in the highest grade in the school to the lowest, and sometimes, from having an established group of friends to not knowing many people. It's not surprising your child is nervous!



To build his confidence in his ability to navigate the changes:

- **Make your child feel competent.** Discuss the things that make him a good friend. Help him practice his organizational skills. If the middle school has lockers, get him a combination lock and let him practice unlocking and locking it.
- **Ask if you and your child can tour** the school this spring while classes are in session. Just walking around will give him a better idea of what to expect. Pick up a map of the hallways if one is available.
- **Point out that everyone** in his grade will be starting fresh and looking for new friends. And he'll still have chances to see old friends, too.
- **Find out about school activities** that start in the summer, such as orientation days or sports or band practice. If your child participates, he can make some new friends before the school year starts.

## Parent Quiz

### Are you helping your child read fluently?

Students who read aloud with *fluency* are more likely to have a strong understanding of the text. Fluent reading is smooth, accurate and expressive. Are you helping your child develop reading fluency? Answer *yes* or *no* below:

- \_\_\_ **1. Do you make** time for your child to read to you, on top of the time you read to her?
- \_\_\_ **2. Do you allow** your child to choose what to read aloud, even if she's read it before?
- \_\_\_ **3. Do you wait** until your child has finished reading to correct misread words, rather than interrupting?
- \_\_\_ **4. Do you tell** your child how to pronounce a word if she asks, then encourage her to keep reading?

- \_\_\_ **5. Do you talk** with your child about the book when she has finished reading?

#### How well are you doing?

*More yes answers mean you are fostering fluency. For each no, try that idea.*

"Fluency is a wonderful bridge to comprehension and to a life-long love of reading."

—Maryanne Wolf

## Offer encouragement that supports self-reliance

You want your child to recognize and feel good about his strengths and accomplishments, without needing praise from someone else. To offer positive encouragement:

- **Focus on** your child's effort and progress. "You have really gotten the hang of subtraction. It must be really satisfying to see your effort pay off."
- **Describe** rather than giving your opinions. "Look at how *organized* and *detailed* your science report is!" not "This is great!"
- **Don't wait** for your child to do well. "That didn't work out the way you planned, did it? I know you'll try again. What could you do differently next time?"

## Be an attentive listener

To help your child feel comfortable talking to you about challenges or situations she may be facing at school, show her that you are a caring listener. Make it a point to:

- **Tell your child** that you want to hear what she has to say.
- **Set a time** when your child can have your full attention if you can't listen in the moment.
- **Listen without interrupting** and restate what your child says to confirm your understanding.

## Promote problem-solving and writing with a letter

Does your child have a regular task that never gets done—at least, not without a lot of nagging? Ask him to write you a letter explaining why ... and what he thinks would solve the problem. This will force him to think logically about what he's doing—and give him a chance to write persuasively.



### Helping Children Learn<sup>®</sup>

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# April 2022

## Daily Learning Planner: Ideas Families Can Use to Help Children Do Well in School—Try a New Idea Every Day!

- 1. Watch the sun rise and set with your child. Talk about how the Earth's rotation makes the sun seem to rise in the east and set in the west.
- 2. April is National Poetry Month. Check out a few books of poetry from the library to read with your child.
- 3. Watch TV with your child and ask, "Was that show realistic?"
- 4. Play math "Jeopardy" as a family. Give a number. Who can come up with a problem for which it is the answer?
- 5. Teach your child the meaning of *homographs*—words that are spelled the same but have different meanings, such as *bass* (fish or instrument).
- 6. Encourage your child to sort books by subject. She can use the library's system or invent her own.
- 7. Tell your child about the best and worst parts of your day. Ask about his.
- 8. Have a music-sharing evening. Share your favorite music with each other. Talk about how it makes you feel.
- 9. Does your child know your state capital? If not, help her look it up.
- 10. Help your child mark off inches on the side of a clear, straight-sided jar. Set it outside. See how many inches of rain you get in one week.
- 11. Brainstorm ways your family could help beautify your neighborhood.
- 12. Review fire safety today. What should your child do in case of a fire? Teach him an escape route from his bedroom.
- 13. Ask your child "what if" questions. "What if it never rained?" "What if everyone had the same name?"
- 14. Have your child draw an upside-down picture today.
- 15. Help your child review math facts by writing them on the sidewalk with chalk.
- 16. Look for ways to involve your child in your hobbies. For example, if you are a runner, take your child for a short jog.
- 17. Encourage your child to write a letter or email to a friend.
- 18. Together, write a poem about your family. Start each line with a letter from the word FAMILY.
- 19. Watch a different kind of TV program with your child, such as a documentary or a nature show. Talk about what you learned.
- 20. Look through catalogs or magazines with your child for pictures containing 90-degree angles. Create a collage of these angles.
- 21. Taste-test different types of apples with your child.
- 22. When your child is struggling, remind her how she has handled tough situations in the past.
- 23. Sit face to face with your child. Take turns mirroring exactly what the other person does.
- 24. Have your child write a poem or story from the point of view of a bird.
- 25. Review spelling or vocabulary words with your child. Challenge yourselves to use them in conversation as often as possible this week.
- 26. Use a toothpick dipped in lemon juice or milk to write a message to your child. To decipher, hold the paper up to a light bulb.
- 27. It's the birthday of Samuel Morse. Have family members send messages to each other in Morse Code.
- 28. Start telling a story to your child. Have him write an ending for it.
- 29. Practice division. Ask your child, "How many of your lifetimes has Grandma lived? Aunt Elizabeth?"
- 30. Take a "trip" to another country. Help your child go online to find out what life is like for school children there.

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# May 2022

## Daily Learning Planner: Ideas Families Can Use to Help Children Do Well in School—Try a New Idea Every Day!

- 1. May is National Physical Fitness and Sports Month. Make an effort to get some exercise with your child every day this month!
- 2. Plan a picnic with your child.
- 3. Measure things a new way. How many fingers long is your child's bed?
- 4. When your child asks you a question, show her how to find the answer for herself.
- 5. Try to give your undivided attention when your child is talking to you.
- 6. Look for a community service project to do as a family.
- 7. Prepare a special breakfast today. As you eat, talk with your child about summer plans.
- 8. Play math baseball with your child. Each correct answer is a base hit.
- 9. Correct mistakes in a positive way: "You spelled everything right except these two words. I bet you can fix them!"
- 10. Give your child opportunities to make decisions. It's a skill that gets better with practice.
- 11. Pay your child a genuine and specific compliment.
- 12. Tell your child that you know he can succeed in school.
- 13. Record a conversation with your child. Listen to it together and talk about how your voices sound.
- 14. Encourage your child to imagine how others might be feeling in different situations.
- 15. Have a contest. Which family member can name the most parts of the body?
- 16. Let school lessons spark your imagination. Visit an educational website with your child.
- 17. On a map, help your child locate places where family members came from.
- 18. Discuss the importance of starting the day with a nutritious breakfast.
- 19. How many types of punctuation can your child find today?
- 20. Attendance is still important! Recommit to having your child start school on time every day.
- 21. Plan an outdoor adventure day. Visit a zoo, park or playground.
- 22. Show your child how her shadow moves. Look at shadows at different times of the day. Do they change?
- 23. Walk to a local landmark with your child. Later, have him make a map of your route, including *north, south, east and west*.
- 24. Encourage your child to ask older family members about their memories of childhood.
- 25. Have each family member bring an interesting historical fact to dinner.
- 26. Talk to your child about cheating. What are reasons some people cheat? Emphasize that cheating is *always* wrong.
- 27. How many times can your child jump rope? Jump and count together.
- 28. Mix 1 cup cornstarch and ½ cup water in a bowl. Squish it and it becomes solid. Let it sit and it turns back into a liquid.
- 29. Take a walk with your child in a nearby park. Talk about the flowers and birds that you see.
- 30. Today is Memorial Day. Talk to your child about what this day means to you.
- 31. Encourage your child to write a thank-you note to a favorite teacher.

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