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Connecting Learning Assures Successful Students

Upcoming Events

Special Needs Day

Thursday, February 5, 2009

Related Arts Day

Friday, February 20, 2009

Support Team Day

Friday, March 13, 2009

Literacy Strategies that Work! with Barbara Pedersen, Jim McMillan & Ruby Butler

Thursday, March 12, 2009

Top 10 Behavior Tips Workshop at Bethel College with Barbara Pedersen, Jim McMillan & Ruby Butler

Monday, March 23, 2009

To register please contact
the C.L.A.S.S. Office.





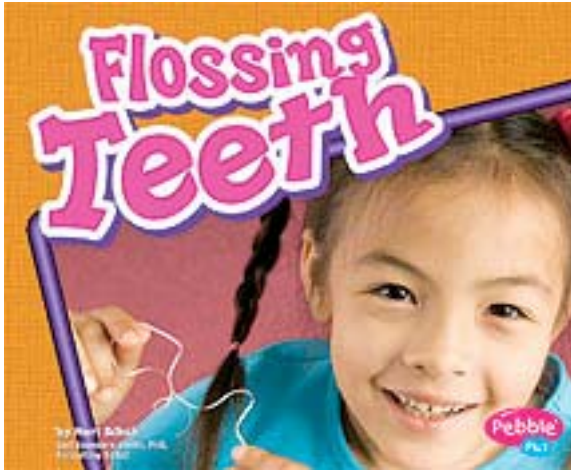
February Issue: C.L.A.S.S. Literacy Links and informational text

*“Writing and reading is to me synonymous with existing.”
-- Gertrude Stein*

Welcome to C.L.A.S.S. E-Tools!

This month we’re going to look at the C.L.A.S.S. Literacy Links and informational text. It often seems easy to think of the 7 questions to go with fictional text, but how might they be different with non-fiction titles.

We are going to be using some brand new non-fiction titles. We’ll share a little bit about the book, and then give you some ideas of potential Literacy Links that you can make with each book. These sample ideas will give you the spark to create your own Literacy Links with any informational texts.

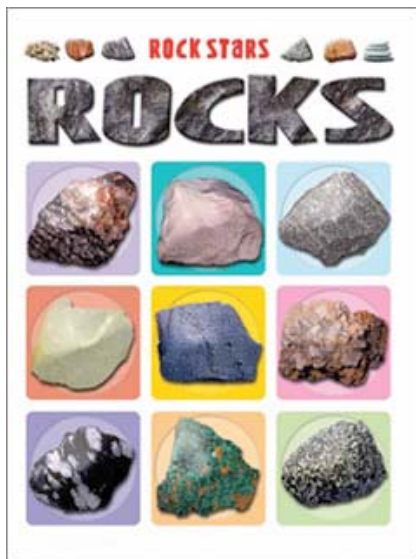


Flossing Teeth
by Mari Schuh

Simple text, photographs, and diagrams help children understand the importance of flossing their teeth and teach them the proper way to floss.

Capstone Press, ©2008.

<p>Phonics What are some words that rhyme with floss?</p>	<p>Predict What will happen if you don't floss your teeth?</p>
<p>Put In Order In your daily routine each morning, when should you floss?</p>	<p>Connections Read some other books in the Healthy Teeth series. How does <u>Flossing Teeth</u> connect to the other books?</p>
<p>Comprehension (Use the Chapter Titles) Why do you floss? What is flossing? How do you keep teeth healthy?</p>	<p>Fluency Let's read the book aloud together as a class!</p>
<p>Fun Let's try to read the book while acting like we are flossing our teeth.</p>	



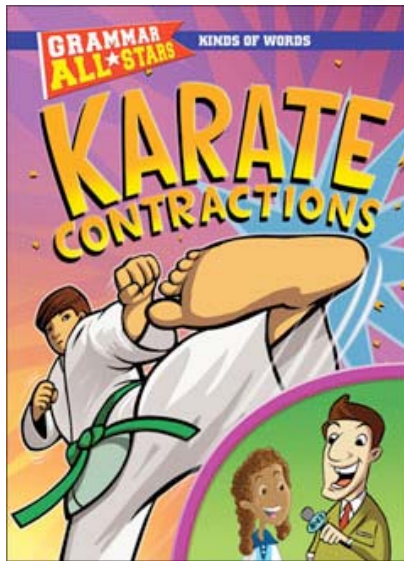
Rocks

by Chris and Helen Pellant

They don't wear bling. They aren't mobbed by fans or hounded by photographers. And they'll never make the cover of a music magazine. Meet some rock stars of a different sort – the building blocks of Earth beneath your feet.

Gareth Stevens Publishing, ©2009.

<p>Proper English The title of the series of books is <i>Rock Stars</i>. What are the different meanings of that phrase? Why do you think the authors might have used this play on words?</p>	<p>Predict Let's check out the Table of Contents. What can we predict that we might learn by reading this book?</p>
<p>Put In Order Read the three chapters on becoming a rock collector. Let's make a list in order of the steps we need to follow.</p>	<p>Connections What kind of rocks might we find around our school?</p>
<p>Comprehension What is the difference between igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rock?</p>	<p>Fluency Let's read this chapter aloud. How about the boys read the captions to the pictures, the girls read any textboxes, and the teacher can read the chapter text.</p>
<p>Fun Let's read this like they were lyrics to a Rock N Roll song!</p>	

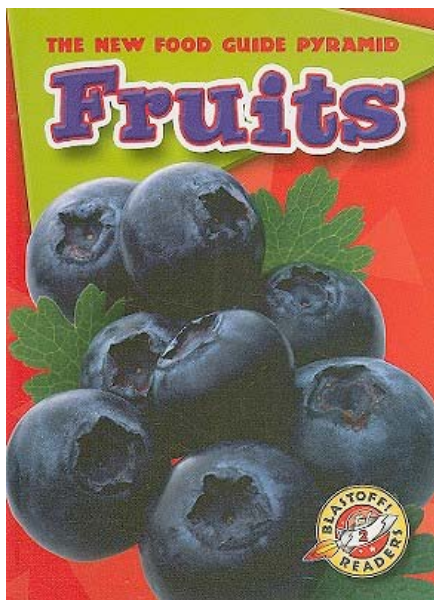


Karate Contractions
By Gail Herman

Grammar comes to life in this fun series, in which entertaining sports events reinforce language arts skills.

Gareth Stevens Publishing, ©2009.

<p>Proper English What is a contraction?</p>	<p>Predict How many different contractions do you think we will find in this book? (Have students keep a list to check!)</p>
<p>Put In Order Let's put the list we just made in alphabetic order. Now let's sort it based on what letter(s) the apostrophe replaced.</p>	<p>Connections Let's look back at a book we read yesterday. Could we replace any of the words we read with a contraction? Let's look at our hallway greeting and welcome message? What contractions could we make in those texts?</p>
<p>Comprehension What is a contraction?</p>	<p>Fluency Read this book with a partner. Alternate after each chapter.</p>
<p>Fun Move around so that you don't hurt someone. Every time we see or hear a contraction, let's make a little kick.</p>	



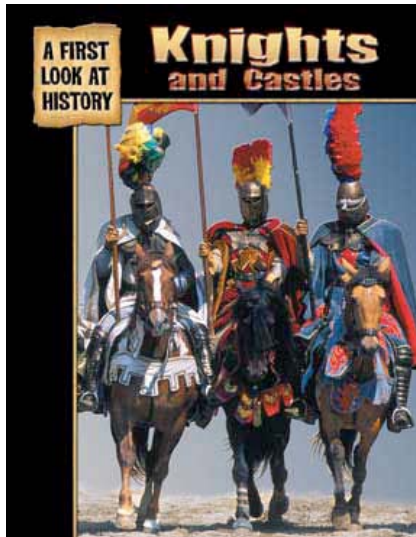
Fruits

By Emily K. Green

An introduction to the Food Guide Pyramid, focusing on the fruit group, the health benefits of these foods, and correct portion size.

Scholastic Library Publishing,
©2007.

<p>Proper English Write a simile or metaphor using a fruit.</p>	<p>Predict Why are fruits good for you?</p>
<p>Put In Order There are lots of bolded words in this book. Let's sort them in alphabetical order.</p>	<p>Connections What fruits have you eaten in the last two days?</p>
<p>Comprehension Why are fruits good for you?</p>	<p>Fluency Read this as a learning club. Change readers every time you turn the page.</p>
<p>Fun Come up with a movement we can make to help convince others to eat more fruits!</p>	

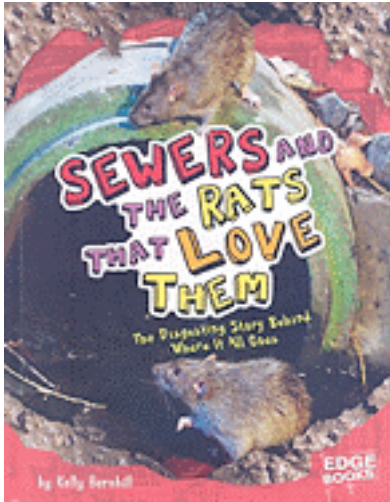


Knights and Castles
By Fiona Macdonald

The Middle Ages have been gone for more than five centuries, but for about one thousand years, medieval knights and magnificent castles made history.

Gareth Stevens Publishing, ©2005.

<p>Proper English What kind of adjectives could you come up with to describe a Knight?</p>	<p>Predict How did young boys become noble knights?</p>
<p>Put In Order How are non-fiction books organized? What are the different parts of a book you should look for when researching?</p>	<p>Connections Check out the glossary. What words do you recognize before we read the book? What works might be new to you?</p>
<p>Comprehension How did knights fight? What was life like in a medieval castle?</p>	<p>Fluency Whisper read the book aloud to yourself.</p>
<p>Fun Find an interesting and intriguing bit of information in this book and write it down. Try to pick something different than your classmates. We'll share out and see if anyone else in the class came up with the same interesting fact.</p>	



Sewers and the Rats that Love Them
By Kelly Barnhill

Describes the history of sewage treatment and discusses wastewater treatment plants, rats that live in sewers, and other related topics.

Gareth Stevens Publishing, ©2009.

<p>Proper English Think about rats. What are some similes or metaphors we could write with the word rat!</p>	<p>Predict Based on the title, what do you think this book is about?</p>
<p>Put In Order What are all the steps to clean water that has gone through the sewers?</p>	<p>Connections Why do you like where you live? Why do you think the rats like where they live?</p>
<p>Comprehension Who were the first people to invent a sewer system?</p>	<p>Fluency Read this book like you are really excited about the topic.</p>
<p>Fun Read the book like you are being sneaky.</p>	



What Happens at an Airport
Amy Hutchings

Join Buddy, every first grader's favorite Weekly Reader pal, as he goes behind the scenes at interesting real-life places where people do interesting real-life work.

Weekly Reader Publishing, ©2009.

<p>Phonics What two words can you make from airport?</p>	<p>Predict What do you think happens at the airport?</p>
<p>Put In Order Let's look at the index. Which word appears on the most pages? Which words appears on just one page?</p>	<p>Connections Have you ever flown on an airplane? Have you ever visited an airport?</p>
<p>Comprehension Why do you need a ticket to fly on an airplane?</p>	<p>Fluency Let's read this book together as a class.</p>
<p>Fun Let's put out our arms and act like we are flying as we read this book.</p>	