



COMET CONNECTION

COLOMA ELEMENTARY

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From the Principal

Unlocking Nonfiction

From books and magazines to textbooks and newspapers, nonfiction reading is a big part of your child's life. Help her get the most out of her reading with these ideas.

Surround. Leave newspapers, coffee table books, magazines, and how-to books around the house. Ask questions to encourage your youngster to read them ("Did you see the story about the county fair?"). At bedtime, choose a non-fiction read-aloud, such as *Insectlopedia* by Douglas Florian. Before you read, say, "Let's see what we can learn about bugs." When you finish, mention something you discovered ("A praying mantis eats bees!"), and ask your child to share a new fact.

Connect. Your youngster can soak up facts more easily by linking them with what she sees. If she's reading about magnets, ask her to explain how your refrigerator magnets work ("Magnets are attracted to iron or nickel, so the refrigerator must contain one of those metals"). If you're visiting out-of-town relatives, take along a guide about the area you're going to.

Expand. Reading the same information in several nonfiction sources can help your child understand a topic better. For a history chapter on ancient civilizations, she might visit the library to check out *Mummies, Pyramids, and Pharaohs* by Gail Gibbons or *Adventures in Ancient Greece* by Linda Bailey. Ask her what information appear in both her textbook and the library books. Encourage her to share new facts with her teacher or class. ♥

♥ Have a Heart ♥

The week before Valentine's Day, Monday, February 8, through Friday, February 12, all students in the Coloma Community Schools will have the opportunity to show they care for someone very special in our school system. Mrs. Pam Dacheux has been a cook at the Middle School for nine years. She has been diagnosed with cancer and is now on medical leave. We want to let her know we miss her and hope she is better soon.

During the lunch periods at all of the buildings, students will have the opportunity to purchase a heart-shaped rice crispy treat-on-a-stick for \$1.00. All proceeds will go to Mrs. Dacheux and her family. Thank you!

P.E. NEWS

Jump Rope for Heart – Our students will have the opportunity to participate in The American Heart Association Jump Rope for Heart again this year. The actual event will be held during the week of February 8 – 12.

Michigan Apples School Sweepstakes

We Can Win up to \$5,000!

With Michigan Apples – it's in the bag

Help our school win money for important expenses. The Michigan Apple Committee is giving schools the chance to win up to \$5,000 and a new computer. Our school will receive one entry into the School Sweepstakes for every Michigan Apples Logo (sample below) you send in from bags of Michigan Apples.

Did you know that Michigan is the third largest apple producer in the U.S.? Almost all of our apples are sold in bags (3 lb., 5 lb., 8 lb., etc.).

Start collecting now because the more we send in, the greater our chance to win! Drop off your Michigan Apples Logo in the drop box at the school office.

Need a Birthday Gift or Valentines Present?

Wouldn't it be nice to get a gift right from the school and not have to go get it? Our school has some extra gift cards available for you to purchase. Our school gets a small percentage from these cards without you having to pay anything extra.

The following gift cards are available at the school office right now:

\$10 Cards

Claire's (1)
Starbucks (2)
Cracker Barrel (3)
Panera Bread (1)

\$25 Cards

Kohl's (3)
Bath and Body (5)
Old Navy (1)
Wal-Mart (4)

Make your checks payable to the Coloma Elementary PTO K-4 and pick them up at the office.

School Activities for February

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

- Math-A-Thon Kick-Off

Friday, February 5, 2010

- 4th Grade to Mendel Center to see "Harriet Tubman" 9:15 – 11:45

Monday, February 15, 2010

- **No School Presidents' Day**

Friday, February 19, 2010

- Davis, Kuhn & LaVanway to Sarett for "Rock Hounds" 9:40 – 12:00

Thursday, February 25, 2010

- Kniebes & Pomeroy to SWMC Museum 10:15 – 2:00

Friday, February 26, 2010

- Smusz & Vanderboegh to Sarett for "Rock Hounds" 9:40 – 12:00
- Streu & Young to SWMC Museum 10:15 – 2:00

Box Tops for Education

Dear Parents,

Thank you for continuing to support us by submitting **Box Tops for Education**. Those small labels really add up, so please continue to clip, save and submit.

Tips for submitting Box Tops

1. Be sure to include your child's and classroom teacher's names on submission forms so that both receive credit. Writing this information on a slip of paper or on the outside of an envelope for loose submissions is fine.
2. Check the expiration date located on the lower right-hand corner. Expired Box Tops are not redeemable.
3. Submit "Bonus" Box Tops loose in a baggie or envelope. The redeeming company will not accept them on sheets.
4. Don't have enough to fill a sheet? Send them in loose. Need more sheets? Contact Miss Hubbell or your child's teacher.
5. Please separate other collections; such as, "Campbell Soup Labels". A different company or individual redeems these.

Thank you!