



COMET CONNECTION

COLOMA ELEMENTARY

PHONE: 468-2420

MARCH, 2010

From the Principal

Wonderful Words

A good vocabulary will help your youngster do better in all subjects. You can play these games to increase the number of words she knows and uses.

Teach your child to find words inside words. On separate sheets of paper, have each family member write his or her full name (first, middle, last). Set a timer for five minutes. See how many words players can make using the letters in their own names.

Stretch your youngster's thinking while teaching her about letter patterns. The first player says a word with four letters (*late*). The next person changes just one letter to make a new word (*date*). Continue playing as long as possible.

Help your child find interesting words in stories. Secretly choose a book she knows, write down 5-10 favorite words from the pages, and read the list to her. Can she guess the book? Talk about why you liked each word ("*Suspect* sounds sneaky, and the suspect in a mystery is *sneaky*") and what it means (someone accused of doing something). Then, let her select words from a book for you. ♥

Looking Beyond Stereotypes

Q: *My son Dylan told me that he doesn't like a boy in his class because he's from a different country. What should I say?*

A: This is a good time to discuss stereotypes and try to teach your child about tolerance and diversity. You can explain that a stereotype is a judgment made about a member of a particular group without really knowing the person. And since each person is an individual, stereotypes are unfair. For example, you could say, he wouldn't want people making an assumption about him based on his appearance or background.

Encourage Dylan to tell you how he feels about his classmate. He might say, "He's not like me." Then, suggest that he try playing with him at recess or invite him over to work on a school project. Once your son spends a little time with him, he may discover that they're more alike than he thought. ☺

March Reading Month Activities

**Theme: "Reading Month Diner"
(All You Can Read)**

Tuesday, March 2 – Dr. Seuss/Crazy Hair Day

Friday, March 5 – Favorite Sports Team Day

Friday, March 12 – Read & Feed/Slippers Day

Wednesday, March 17 – Green & Gold Day

Friday, March 19 – Class T-Shirt Day

Friday, March 26 – Back to the 50's Day/Staff Play

Tuesday, March 29 – Magic & Reading Assembly

School Activities for March

Monday, March 1, 2010

- **Magazine Booklets Due** – completed booklets will be put in a drawing to win an inflatable robot with a built-in walkie-talkie

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

- **Dr. Seuss/Crazy Hair Day**
- **PTO Meeting at Wash. Elem. – 6 p.m.**

Thursday, March 4, 2010

- **Pomeroy & Science Olympiads to Lake Michigan College – 8:45-2:10**

Friday, March 5, 2010

- **Favorite Sports Team Day**
- **Math-A-Thon money due – thank you**
- End of 2nd Trimester
- South Haven Ice Arena:
LaVanway & Vanderboegh – 8:15-10:50 am
Smusz & Trail – 12:30-3:10 pm

Monday, March 8, 2010

- **No School – Records Day**

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

- **Half Day School – Dismiss at 11:47**
- **Teacher Professional Development**

Wednesday, March 10, 2010

- **Spring Pictures ☺**
- **PTO Pizza Fundraiser Pick-Up at Coloma Elementary – 3:30-6:00 p.m.**

Thursday, March 11, 2010

- **Sarett Nature Center – Maple Sugaring:**
Czuba & Salisbury – 9:15-11:15 a.m.
Trail & Weeks – 12:15-2:15 p.m.

Friday, March 12, 2010

- **Read and Feed/Slippers Day**

Saturday, March 13, 2010

- **PTO Spring Carnival – 11:00-3:00 at Washington Elementary School**
- **Disabilities Awareness Fair at Coloma Elementary – 10:00-3:00**

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

- **Green and Gold Day**

Friday, March 19, 2010

- **Class T-Shirt Day**

Monday, March 22, 2010

- **Mendel Center – “Are You My Mother”:**
Czuba & Salisbury – 9:20 a.m.
Tobias, Trail & Weeks – 11:50 a.m.

Friday, March 26, 2010

- **Back to the 50's Day/Staff Play**

Monday, March 29, 2010

- **Author/Publisher, Jim Merrills to present Magic through Reading – all day sessions**

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.

Thank You!

Dear Staff, Parents and Students,

Your gift of Health Kits will truly be appreciated by people in Haiti who have lost their homes and belongings. Along with the 114 kits your school put together, Coloma United Methodist Church added 71, for a total of 185 Health Kits.

The families in Haiti had so little to begin with. They will appreciate both the items and the fact that you cared about them so much. The caring and generosity from the staff, parents, and students is remarkable.

Many blessings to all of you,
Barb Ramsey-Smith
Mission Chairperson
Coloma United Methodist Church

Need a Gift for a Special Occasion?

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)
Panera Bread (1)
Cracker Barrel (3)

\$25 Cards

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

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