

Good morning!

Last week in social studies, we began working in our book. The initial lesson explored immigration and the experiences and challenges therein. Each student has chosen a famous person that came to the United States as an immigrant. We worked on reports Thursday and will continue to do so on Tuesday.

Our poet this week is William Blake. We are reading four of his poems, including *The Tyger*. I am going to start asking students to consider certain aspects of the poet and/or poetry to expand their understanding. If you have a favorite poet or poem, feel free to share them with me. I am always looking for ideas and inspiration!

In science, we have been discussing heredity, genetics, and cell division. The blood-typing kits should be delivered this week. I have a friend that is a registered (former school) nurse that is able to come and help with the tests and to talk about health-related topics. I will find out when she is available and will update you on what day we are going to conduct this 'experiment.' I have told students they are not required to do the blood-typing. I ordered ten kits, and if they later change their minds, we can always have Jennifer come back again.

We are through chapter two in *A Wrinkle in Time*. Students are working on the comprehension packets that accompany the story. The questions include character descriptions, plot, foreshadowing, and summarizing. I think it is a good segue into our language arts coursework and I will start incorporating more paragraph writing so students can work on that skill.

You may notice math books home this weekend. Students should know where they need to be in their books by Tuesday (4th- page 96, 5th- page 98, 6th- page 89, 8th- page 80). We have an Earthquake drill on Thursday and a guest scheduled to come in on Friday. Some students sent me the obj/stl files for their 3D printer models. I forwarded them to Jennifer Horton at SIU. The websites we are using are Tinkercad and Thingiverse. If they haven't finished their designs yet, students may want to get them completed. They can post the page with their designs

to the Google Classroom site or email them to me.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Have a great day off!

Heather