



CLEARVIEW

Curriculum Connection

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Learning Activity Ideas for February Black History Month

February is nationally recognized as Black History Month. There are many ways that students in our Clipper classrooms K-12 can engage in learning activities connected to Black History as part of our overall history. Each year I witness many of these activities at all three school buildings; let's make sure Clearview continues with this annual learning highlight. Need some classroom ideas? ...



Check out the article link below from WeAreTeachers. It contains 40 engaging classroom activities that can be utilized for Black History Month. Included are videos and books that highlight individuals and their accomplishments. Links to videos are included right in the article so easy access exists for your planning. The additional link is also from WeAreTeachers. It contains 55 Black History Videos Everyone should watch. Many ideas exist!

LINK: 40 Black History Month Activities for February and Beyond

LINK: 55 Black History Videos Everyone Should Watch

Also check below for another link; this one is from Teaching Expertise. It contains 53 additional ideas for Black History Month that can be utilized in the elementary classroom. These activities are for our youngest Clippers. This site includes virtual field trips and templates that can be downloaded for classroom lessons specific for the elementary age group.

LINK: 53 Black History Month Elementary Activities

In addition, teachers can also check and review other district resources such as Flocabulary, Edpuzzle, Storyworks, Scope, Teachers Pay Teachers, etc. Many of our existing resources have added Black History Month learning activities for the classroom as well.

Planning on conducting one of these ideas? Please send an invite and I would like to highlight your learning activity in our Curriculum Connection newsletter for all to review!

**Leadership
is not about
being in
charge. It's
about taking
care of those
in your
charge.**

**~Simon
Sinek**

Upcoming Dates:

- ♦ 1/31: OLAC DOTY Award Presented to Clearview
- ♦ 1/31: Clearview PD Presentation @OLAC Conference
- ♦ 2/1: VES PT Conferences
- ♦ 2/6: Math PD at ESCLC
- ♦ 2/8: DMS PT Conferences
- ♦ 2/15: CHS PT Conferences
- ♦ 2/20: DMS ELA PD Session #2

District Teachers Pay Teachers Account Update

Several teachers recently alerted me to the post on our district Teachers Pay Teachers account stating that the district is at the end of our subscription. However, no worries, Clearview has a multi-year subscription that will take us into 2026. I have reached out to our reps at TpT to ensure that no loss of service is experienced. I am aware that many teachers in the district rely on TpT for open resources. Since the items are made by teachers a correlation to their effective use in the classroom exists. Our partnership with TpT will continue.



Ohio State Testing Spring 2024 Preparation

Each issue of the Curriculum Connection from now until Spring will contain a section on Ohio State Testing Preparation. I will include details about test scheduling, test preparation, and test background. In this issue I will share the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce's State Testing Blueprints. What info is contained on the blueprint and how can this help teachers? Test blueprints serve as a guide for test construction and provide an outline of the content and skills to be measured on the test. They contain info about individual tests, including the number of points on the test, and show how the learning standards are grouped in order to report the test results. The blueprints also contain the breakdown Depth of Knowledge levels on the test. It is important to understand what is on the test in order to best prepare students overall. The link to access the blueprints is below. Once on the site, teachers can identify the subject and grade level and review the blueprint of interest. A sample of one is also contained in the graphic to the right; it is the CHS American History exam.

LINK: Ohio State Test Blueprints

American History Blueprint				
Reporting Categories	Content Statements	Reporting Category Point Range	Total Test Point Range	Total Test DOK Point Range
Skills and Documents		12-14	53-55	DOK 1: 3-13 DOK 2: 35-47 DOK 3: 3-8
Historical Thinking and Skills	1, 2, 3			
Founding Documents	4, 5, 6, 7			
1877-1945		22-24		
Industrialization and Progressivism (1877-1920)	8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13			
Foreign Affairs from Imperialism to Post-World War I (1898-1930)	14, 15			
Prosperity, Depression and the New Deal (1919-1941)	16, 17, 18, 19			
From Isolation to World War (1930-1945)	20, 21			
1945-Present		17-19		
The Cold War (1945-1991)	22, 23, 24, 25, 26			
Social Transformations in the United States (1945-1994)	27, 28, 29, 30			
United States and the Post-Cold War World (1991-Present)	31, 32, 33			

SmartPass and Teacher Laptop Announcement for Grades 5-12 Staff:

Another reminder for Clearview teachers grades 5-12 using our new digital SmartPass system.

***Teacher Laptops are not to be used for SmartPass kiosks in your classroom.** If you are interested in having a chromebook in your classroom to be used as a SmartPass kiosk please submit a ticket with Vinson Tech and they will have one arranged for your classroom accordingly for this purpose. Any questions please let me know; I will be happy to assist.

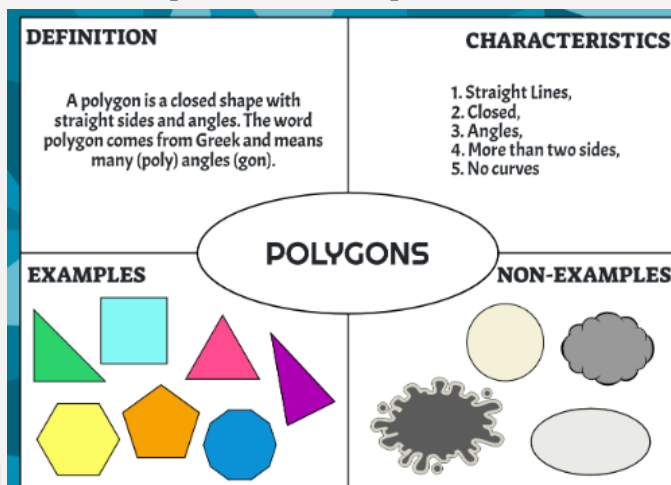
***Order Chromebook Through Vinson for SmartPass Kiosk**



Instructional Strategies Review: Vocabulary Study Through the Frayer Model

In each issue of the Connection I will review a particular instructional strategy: Vocabulary Study Through the Frayer Model. The Frayer Model is a graphic organizer for building student vocabulary by the identification of a word's: definition; examples, non-examples, characteristics, and may also include drawing a picture to illustrate the meaning. The graphic organizer contains four squares with an oval in the center with the word inside. It encourages students to think critically. The Frayer Model helps students to remember the terms but also to understand their application and relevance. It is especially helpful for visual learners. The improvement of student vocabulary continues to be a district initiative within our literacy goal. Trying this strategy? Let me know for a class visit! More info contained on the link below, also including a PDF template you can use:

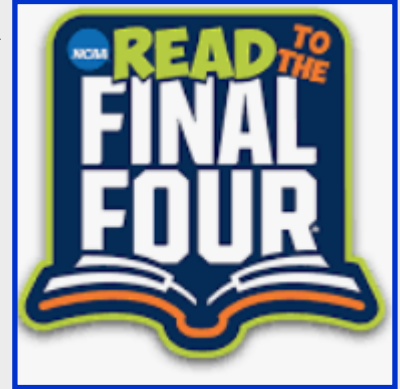
LINK: Vocab Study with The Frayer Model



Vincent Elementary Advances Toward the Final Four in State Reading Competition!

Congratulations to students and staff at Vincent Elementary who currently sit at #28 out of 68 schools in Ohio that have advanced in the **Read to the Final Four** literacy challenge leading up to the NCAA's Women's Final Four in April. Created in 2016, the Read to the Final Four reading challenge targets third graders in each state where the NCAA's Final Four tournaments are held. Clearview received a notice from the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission regarding their awesome progress and advancement in the competition. The Final Four leading schools with the highest average minutes read at the end of the competition receive a field trip to the local tournament. Special thanks to those at VES promoting these efforts to encourage reading!! We will continue to update the district on their hard work and progress! Best of Luck to

our Grade 3 Team of teachers: **Tiffany Duke; Nick Guerrieri; Dianna Dane; Carey Naro; Jamie Dodson; Rebecca Woodworth; Kelly Schenk; Rosanna Darby; and Megan Prebul.**



Personal Netflix Accounts Can No Longer Be Used in Classrooms

Perhaps not the best news that some teachers want to hear; however, personal Netflix accounts will continue to be blocked for Clearview classrooms. I understand several teachers have been using their personal Netflix accounts in the past to show movies/documentaries/videos. However, copyright and other issues exist that we cannot ignore and our tech consortium can no longer ignore as well. However, I am now in the process of looking into alternatives for educational programming that are covered through copyright and do not involve teachers using personal accounts in the process. In the meantime, Clearview does have a wealth of educational resources that are available. The video you desire may be covered in some other form through one of these many resources. Once I potentially find an alternative for digital classroom film access I will inform the Clearview staff accordingly.

**Personal Netflix
Accounts Will
Continue to be
Blocked in CLS
Classrooms**

Clearview DOTY Award Presentation!

Next week on Wednesday, **January 31st**, the **Ohio Leadership Advisory Council** will conduct their annual state conference and PBIS showcase. At that time Clearview Local Schools will be awarded the OLAC District of the Year! The award will be presented by Dr. David Axner, Executive Director of the Buckeye Association of School Administrators. **Dr. Davis** and myself recently were filmed in advance to receive the award which will be aired for all participants. It is indeed a testament to the hard work of staff and the shared leadership practices that exist in the CLS. Later, Clearview is presenting a session in regards to continuous improvement practices. VES's **Lynne Stark, Jenn Fazio**, and myself will present. Congrats Clearview!!



OELPA Testing in Clearview Schools

Annually identified students are required to engage in the OELPA Test. The Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment is the state summative test administered to students identified as English learners in grades K-12. It is designed to determine an English learner's progress to English language proficiency and their readiness to exit from the English language development program. The testing window will be held from **January 29th - March 22nd**. Special thanks to **Tammy San Felippo** our district ELL instructor for her efforts to test students. This year she is tasked with completing testing for 18 students. Also, thanks to our Special Education Director **Meaghan Khandekar** for her efforts to assist with OELPA accommodations that are required as well. Thank you!!

**Clearview
OELPA
Testing to
Begin Next
Week**

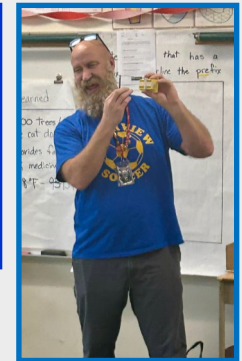
Active, Engaged, and Innovative Classroom Learning in Clearview!

Each issue of Curriculum Connection will include reports from our classrooms around the district. We want to do our best to promote active, engaged, and innovative lesson plans. What are your colleagues doing to engage Clearview students? The idea is to show appreciation for the hard work it takes to plan and develop such lessons.

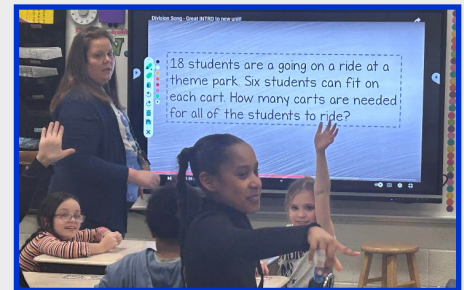
That looks tuft. I made a visit this past week to **Jacob Ward's** advanced art class at CHS. He was teaching his students a new skill called tufting. Tufting is a decorative artform using yard or similar material to create sculpted designs. The technique consists of inserting yarn into a canvas creating loops or cut tassels, without knots; a tufting gun is used that quickly goes through the canvas with each application. Jacob obtained a educational foundation grant that supplied all of the materials for such a project, including the tufting guns. Jacob then taught the skill to his students. Currently they are practicing tufting to make decorative rugs that have been designed by the kids themselves. Very impressive!!



Battery powered 4th grade lesson! Students in **Ryan Lewis'** 4th grade science class are learning about electricity and circuits. On the day of my visit this past week, Ryan had kids engage in an inquiry based learning activity, similar to the inductive strategy from last week's Connection. He first posed a question to kids about what they think would happen when a wire that is woven around a nail is then connected to a battery.(?) Kids had to used both their prior knowledge and critical thinking skills to identify an answer that worked. After trying out the experiment, they got the answer - It becomes magnetic! Kids had great fun learning in the process of this fun electric lab!! Nice work to all!!



I made a visit to **Tiffany Duke's** Third grade classroom this past week. The kids were getting their first exposure to division. Tiffany played a peppy music video explaining the CUBES process for solving word problems. C= circle important words; U= underline question; B= Box keywords; E= eliminate extra info; S= solve by showing work. During the video Tiffany would pause the video to highlight a division word problem. Using the I Do; We Do; You Do strategy she did the first word problem, then she led the whole class for the second, then individual kids came up to the interactive TV to solve the third. Great exposure to a new math skill. Kids were excited to solve the problems!!



An innovative teaching practice that is occurring at CHS is the use of graphic novels in grade 9 World History classes. I made a visit to **Joe Strader's** classroom to observe a lesson on the causes of World War I. Joe starts his classes daily with a bell work activity; on this date kids analyzed the quote, "You will be home before the leaves have fallen from the trees." by Kaiser Wilhelm II pertaining to a misguided prediction of the length of war. Joe also reviewed differences of warfare with new weaponry such a tanks, planes, and chemical gas available. Next they began reading the graphic novel where Joe also required annotations or reflections for each chapter. Graphic novels provide creative text and images that can be informative and entertaining for students!

