





March 2015



Mrs. Nielsen's 3rd Grade BOBCATS  Songo Locks Elementary School  2014 - 2015

Smarter Balanced Testing

Over the course of 2 separate weeks the 3rd graders will be taking part in Smarter Balanced testing. This is a computer based test that all 3rd students in Maine will be taking this year. The first week will focus on English-Language Arts including reading and writing. The 2nd week will focus on math concepts. The best way to help your child is to "NOT stress the test!"

- * Get a good night's sleep.
- * Eat a healthy breakfast.
- * Be present and on time.
- * Relax!



February Recap

Due to the "white stuff" and vacation, we spent most of February catching up on our work. In writing and social studies time the students completed their study of the novel, *Lost on a Mountain in Maine* by Donn Fendler. They completed 7 constructed responses, a summary of the novel and a pamphlet that included all of the story elements. I will share these with you during conference times.

In reading we have resumed our Guided Reading and we are starting to read newspaper articles that we are using as sources in our writing.

How to help at home?

When you ask your child questions (about reading, or just about life) ask them to give REASONS for their answers! We are focusing on supporting our answers with relevant reasoning.

Upcoming Calendar

March

- March 2** Early Release at Noon
- March 6** *FULL-DAY of School
- March 13** *FULL-DAY of School
- March 30-April 3** Smarter Balanced Testing
(English-Language Arts)

April

- April 17** *FULL-DAY of School
- April 20-24** April Vacation
- April 27-May 1** Smarter Balanced Testing
(Math)

*Reflects calendar changes made by the school board.

DAILY WINTER CLOTHING: *Yep, Still!*

Please send your child each day with all of the outdoor gear they need to enjoy daily recess! Also, please LABEL EVERYTHING!



- Warm Jacket
- Snow Pants
- Boots AND Indoor Shoes!
- Hat & Mittens



Curriculum

So What's Up Next?

Students will complete a research project and create their own non-fictional pamphlet about the Great State of Maine. We will also be working with Mr. Jacques on a design challenge!

Can you name the 16 counties of Maine?