

## **LOWER ELEMENTARY WEEK ONE: MARCH 30-APRIL 3, 2020**

Dear Lower Elementary Community,

We created this document to offer a variety of activities that your child might like to do at home. Some concepts may be for review and some may be newly introduced concepts. Hopefully, there will be a balance of both. Please note that this document is meant to serve as a resource, a list of suggestions, and not a mandatory must-do list. Creating sparks of interest and providing space for exploration/follow up are most important.

For repeated practice in math facts and math operations on paper and handwriting work, parents and students will be able to consult with us twice a week. During these sessions in Google Hangout, specific goals can be addressed during this first week. You will receive an email inviting you to these conferences.

Best,

Ms. Pasco and Dr. Feeley

### **Getting Started**

Set up a three-hour block of time – same time every day. Children work during this period. Work includes lots of movement. They need to get up and retrieve things: a book from another room, a flower for dissection from the garden, to make themselves a cup of tea and snack, etc.

Talking is absolutely essential to elementary children because they are social beings. They think out loud. Children think differently than adults. They work differently too, so great latitude must be given for their need to communicate with others as this actually helps them process information.

Discuss with the children what options are available for working on during this time. This is a little different than the way we do things in the classroom. They are adaptable. They just need to know the possibilities so they can make wise choices for themselves.

## Geometry

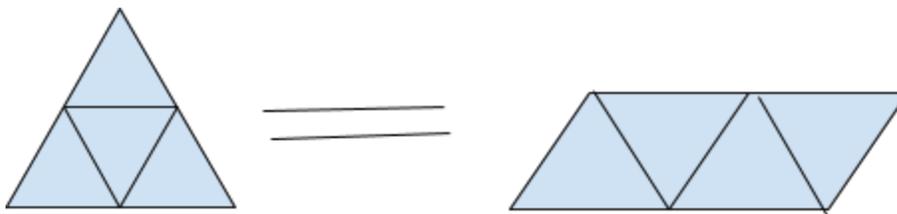
- Measure the perimeters of various shapes in your environment. Round to the nearest unit (no decimals necessary). Keep track of your findings with a table that looks like this:

Item	Perimeter
The front cover of a journal	$8 + 8 + 5 + 5 = 26$ inches

- Solve for the circumferences of various circles in your environment.

Item	Diameter (round to the nearest unit)	Circumference $c = \pi d$
Globe base	6 inches	$3.14 \times 6 = 18.84$ inches

- Make your own set of ten equilateral triangles out of poster board or cardboard. Make them by cutting five squares in half. Use the equilateral triangle to create equivalent shapes. Trace them onto a large paper. Make a poster of many equivalent pairs. For example, four triangles can be used to make a parallelogram and a large triangle that are equivalent. Use the symbol for equivalence to show the relationship.



## Language

- Read a poem and find all of the nouns. Find all of the verbs. Name the parts of speech of the remaining words.

- Write a poem. Use couplets if you'd like.

Example:

*I walked my dog around the block.  
Then drew on the pavement with some chalk.*

*I wrote a letter to my friend.  
After several edits, it was ready to send.*

*I solved for the circumference of a plate  
Using pi times its diameter, so 3.14 by 8.*

*I wrote out the lyrics to "Let's Go Fly a Kite."  
"Kite" is a noun. I know I am right.*

- Write a letter to someone (a classmate, a teacher, a family member) about what you did over spring break. Write a rough draft. Edit. Write a final draft. Send!
- Generate a spelling list from a book that you like. (10-15 words). Once you have created your list, practice spelling them correctly:
  - **Shaving Cream:** write in shaving cream using a silpat or tray
  - **Skin/Air Writing:** trace the letters on your skin with a finger, tap each letter down your arm and then say the whole word, or write them in the sky using your whole arm
  - **Stamp:** use an alphabet box to stamp the words with ink or into dough
  - **Sand:** trace the words with your finger in a sand tray
  - **Word Hunt:** search a book or the environment around you for each word and then record
  - **Cirque du Soleil:** form each letter on the rug with your body
  - **Chant:** chant each letters in a rhythmic pattern
  - **Rainbow:** choose 3-5 colors and write the word in each
  - **Story:** write a story/poem that includes all of the words
  - **Teach:** teach someone else how to spell the word

- Each time, make sure you:
  1. Read the word aloud (while looking at it in written form).
  2. Spell the word aloud, one letter at a time.
  3. Attempt to spell without looking at the word (using one of the above methods).
  4. Check that you spelled the word correctly.
  5. Create a sentence that uses the word (aloud).
  
- Choose a list for this week from the Instructional Spelling Program by Andrea Rolfe. Practice spelling your list out loud with a parent or sibling. Make up sentences for each word and write them down. You can take a quiz on Friday.:
  1. free, sweet, speed, steam, peas, dream, each, wheat, weak, cream
  2. city, pencil, jail, jeep, joke, jeans, junk, age, page, rage
  3. everywhere, whenever, newspaper, flashlight, tablecloth, peppermint, drugstore, supermarket, anybody, nearby
  4. common, hammer, suppose, supper, carrot, borrow, lesson, cotton, bottom, lettuce

### **Writing Conferences**

Please reach out to Ms. Navarro by email at [e.navarro@aidanschool.org](mailto:e.navarro@aidanschool.org) if you would like to schedule a writing conference with her. She would love to hear what you are writing about these days and support your creative work!

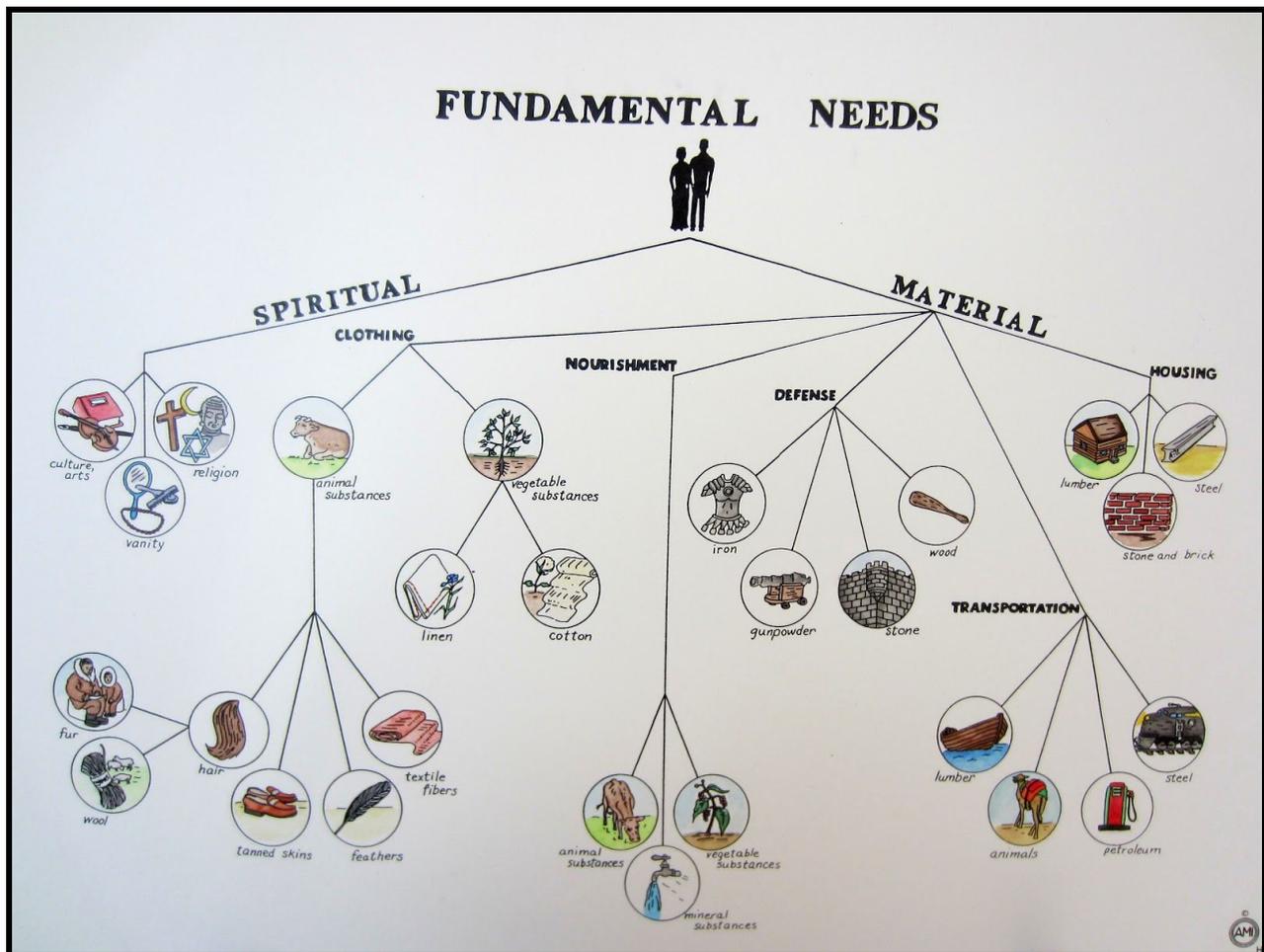
### **Biology**

- Identify the parts of a leaf: margin, midvein, veins, apex, blade/lamina, base, petiole.
  
- Pick any juicy fruit. Sketch the specimen and as best as you can, capture the color with your colored pencils / crayons / watercolor. Identify and describe the exocarp (skin), mesocarp (juicy middle), pericarp (all parts but the seed), and endocarp (core middle).
  - Is it a drupe? (One large seed in the middle)
  - Is it a berry? (Multiple seeds on the inside)
    - Is it a hesperidium? (Citrus fruits with pulp and a rind)
    - Is it a pepo? (A many-seeded berry, that has a hard rind like pumpkin, squash, melon, or cucumber)

- Use a planting chart in an almanac or by consulting the almanac online, <https://www.almanac.com/gardening/planting-calendar/MD/Silver%20Spring>, determine when you might plant seeds or young plants (which you can buy at the hardware store) in your garden. Based on the planting guide, plan a garden plot.
- Observe an animal. Sketch its appearance and add color (colored pencils, crayons, watercolor). Write about what you see, hear, feel, and (if applicable) smell.
- Research an animal.
  - What is the name of the animal?
  - What are its Genus and Species?
  - Describe its appearance.
  - How does it move?
  - How large does it grow?
  - What is its lifespan?
  - Is it an herbivore, carnivore, insectivore, or omnivore?
  - What does it eat?
  - How many offspring can it bear?
  - Where is it found; in what habitats and in what parts of the world?
  - Is it an endangered species?
  - Describe something you find fascinating about its behavior.

## History

- Write a biography.
  - Think of someone you find inspiring.
  - What do you want to find out about that person? Make a list of interview questions.
  - If possible, interview the person. If not, find a valid source to learn more about them.
- How did the \_\_\_\_\_ meet their fundamental needs?
  - Pick one: the Sumerians, the Egyptians, the Nubians, the Vikings, the Chinese, the Incans, the Mayans, the Aztecs, or the Phoenicians?
  - Use the chart below to guide your exploration of how they met their needs.



- Ancient Sumer and Ur: Consider Fundamental Human Need of shelter in reference to Ancient Sumer. [The Fundamental Human Needs are Physical (food, shelter, clothing, transportation, defense) and spiritual (adornment, art, music, education and religion)] You can make the home of a rich family, a poor family or a ziggurat. Plasticene (modeling clay) and craft sticks or straight twigs from a yard work well. Use a stiff piece of cardboard or a piece of wood as a base. Consider the yard. Where are the family animals kept? What sort did they have?

This week you might look at the ziggurats page on this site.

<https://www.ducksters.com/history/mesopotamia/ziggurats.php>

Or check out the Homes and Ziggurat sections on the Mesopotamia for Kids Website

<https://mesopotamia.mrdonn.org/sumer.html>

## Geography

### Magnolia

- Review the water cycle.
  - What do you remember about the water cycle lesson?
  - For further exploration:  
<https://www.americanrivers.org/rivers/discover-your-river/what-is-the-water-cycle/>
- What are the parts of a river? (See:
  - <https://www.americanrivers.org/rivers/discover-your-river/river-anatomy/>
  - <http://jdrn.pbworks.com/w/page/4400670/Parts%20of%20a%20river>
- Choose one river and explore its natural beauty:  
<https://www.americanrivers.org/rivers/discover-your-river/us-rivers/>
- Use an atlas. What are the names of major rivers in North America? In Europe? Etc?
- What are the parts of a mountain? What mountains have you visited?

### Red Oak:

- Interactions of heating land and water: Take a look at the Land and Sea Breezes page on the eschooltoday site.  
<https://www.eschooltoday.com/winds/land-breeze-and-sea-breeze.html>

Would this daily pattern of breezes affect the prevailing winds around the world. How?

Using two cooking thermometers (and working with an adult), heat a cup of water and heat a cup of rice or grits). Heat them at the same time and take them off the heat at the same time (Microwaving for ten seconds should work). Which cools faster?

- Simple Machines: This week look at inclined planes. I found this in the Fun Littles Web site, This experiment asks you to take measurements throughout the experiment. Record the measurements as you go and note under which conditions you took them, side by side.

<https://www.funlittles.com/science-experiments-for-kids-inclined-plane-experiment/>

This is a simple yet popular science experiment for kids to demonstrate the mechanical advantage of using an inclined plane.

#### Materials

- Wooden Plank
- Rice/Beans
- Plastic bag
- Rubber band
- Tape Measure
- Stack of Books

Our load is going to this sack of rice. Place a good quantity of rice in a plastic bag and tie a heavy duty rubber band around it. Then take another rubber band and cut it. Now tie this cut rubber band around the plastic bag and suspend the bag.

*Load = rice bag*

*Force = to lift it up to the top of the book stack*

#### Scenario 1:

Pull the bag of rice using the rubber band to the top of the stack of books. The rubber band stretches showing the amount of effort needed to get the work done.

Measure the stretch of the rubber band (in inches with a ruler) as soon as the bag hits the top of the stack of books.

#### Scenario 2:

Now place the load at the bottom of the wooden plank propped against the stack of books {this is your *inclined plane*}. Pull the same load using the rubber band over the inclined plane. Visually you can see that the rubber band is not stretching as much as it did when you tried to pull it up without the use of an inclined plane.

To make things clearer, measure the stretch of the rubber band once the load reaches the top. It will be lesser than the measurement you got in scenario 1.

You can repeat but change the load or distance and measure to confirm the effect that you observed.)

<https://www.funlittles.com/science-experiments-for-kids-inclined-plane-experiment/>

## Math

Parents, you are encouraged to create an account on Khan Academy for your child. The accounts are FREE. You may click the grade level links below to subscribe your child to a course under my teacher account page, where they can access learning content (video tutorials and activities) and I can view their progress through course content. Content is not lock-step, and it is self-paced. If you do not subscribe your child to the “courses” via the links below, I will not be able to view their progress or work, but the children will still be able to access the various tutorials and content.

Each day, your child should choose an appropriate topic to review/learn and practice. If this is their first experience on the Khan Academy platform, they may need some guidance finding an appropriate topic of study. In general, grade level topics should be familiar territory (e.g. a 2nd Year should look through the 2nd Grade content and select a topic).

How to join your teacher’s Khan Academy class

1. Go to [khanacademy.org/join](https://khanacademy.org/join)
2. Enter your class code and press “Add”.

1st Year Magnolia Class Code: **R67EYPJC**

2nd Year Magnolia Class Code: **4ZDMUE7P**

3rd Year Magnolia Class Code: **ETWFDPGT**

For an added challenge (4th Grade) Code: **355YVU28**

1st Year Red Oak Class Code: **TRKE8EWA**

2nd Year Red Oak Class Code: **CXAW26T2**

3rd Year Red Oak Class Code: **KN563UW3**

For an added challenge (4th Grade) Code: **EJP2FBME**

For yet another challenge and decimal numbers (5th Grade) Code: **QKC35MCE**

3. If you don’t already have an account, press “Create a new account”. Enter your date of birth, then sign up using Google, your school email, or by creating a username.
4. Enter your grade and course. Now you’re ready to start learning!

If for any reason your child does not have access to a computer or you prefer to support their work differently, there are plenty of alternative ways to build math appreciation, number flexibility and to practice building skills. Please see the links below with further ideas (I recommend “Numbers Talks” at this [link](#) - once a parent knows how to have a number talk, these can make for fun, spontaneous conversations).

If you have simple tools at home (e.g. geometry compass, ruler, measuring cups, graph paper, protractor, thermometers, etc.) your child is encouraged to put those tools to good use! If you have workbooks at home (e.g. Kumon, Spectrum, Common Core Math) please feel free to use those instead of Khan Academy for skill practice.

- Create a bar graph based on data you’ve collected
  - How many books do you have that are nonfiction vs fiction?
  - How many pairs of shoes does each person in your family own?
  - How many days are there in each month?
  - How many countries are there in each continent?
  
- Review math facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division): Here are three quiz choices. You can practice over the week using the drill pages found below as a guide for daily work. Look for a quiz opportunity from Dr. Feeley on Friday.
  1. Add single digit numbers with mixed facts.
  2. Add two digit numbers with exchanging as quickly as you can.
  3. Add three digit numbers with exchanging in more than one place value as quickly as you can.

Here are three examples of the three math quiz choices for you to print out and practice. Dr. Feeley will share more pages for print out and practice by e-mail after our first weekly conference. He has taken these examples from the <https://www.education.com/>.

1. Single digit mixed facts with and without exchanging: [1-Minute Math: Addition](#)
2. Double digit with exchanging: [Double Digits! Practice Vertical Addition with Regrouping 51](#)
3. Triple digit with and without exchanging:  
<https://www.education.com/download/worksheet/135688/3-minute-math-drill-addition.pdf>

## Care for Self

- Take a mindfulness break; do yoga or a breathing exercise
- Do something creative (e.g. paint, draw, write a poem, build something, play music, make a booklet and decorate the cover)
- Prepare a healthy snack or smoothie
- Get some exercise (e.g. practice yoga)
- If you have the resources nearby, try some handwork (kumihimo, knitting, crochet, embroidery, origami, sewing)
- Drink water
- Go for a walk outside or look out the window
- Take a nap
- Wash your hands often :)
- Add on to this list.

## Care for the Home and Others

- Plan a meal to cook or a recipe to bake. Be sure to clean the kitchen thoroughly upon completion, and return any tools and utensils to their proper home.
- Offer to care for any houseplants or family pets.
- If you have your own bookshelf, organize it by genre (e.g. fantasy, literary fiction, nonfiction, science fiction, poetry, etc.) or by author last name, or help a sibling organize their shelf. Or organize it by color ;) (Image right: Ms. Pasco's home bookshelf)
- Wash and fold your own laundry.
- Offer to set the table for a family meal.
- Fix something broken (e.g. darning a sock).
- Ask an adult how you can help with a task (carrying groceries, taking out trash, etc.)
- Write a list of questions on paper slips and have the family draw questions from a bowl or hat to make for some interesting dinner conversation.
- Call someone in your class.
- Play with a sibling.
- Add on to this list.

