



North Florida Region

NOVEMBER 2011

POSITIVE CHARACTER QUOTES

Weighing the pig won't make it fatter. Testing our children won't make them smarter

-Anonymous

People's minds are changed through observation, not through argument.

-Will Rogers

True genius resides in the capacity for evaluating uncertain and conflicting information.

-Winston Churchill

Not everything that counts can be counted and not everything that can be counted counts.

-Albert Einstein

The purpose of education is replace an empty mind with an open one.

-Malcolm Forbes



Gobble Up Good Data!

Why is data Important?

Effective teachers use data daily to inform their decisions. One of the most important aspects of good teaching, as many teachers know, is the ability to discern which students are learning and which are not, and then to tailor instruction to meet individual learning needs. Research shows that teachers who use student test performance to guide and improve their teaching are more effective than teachers who do not use such information.



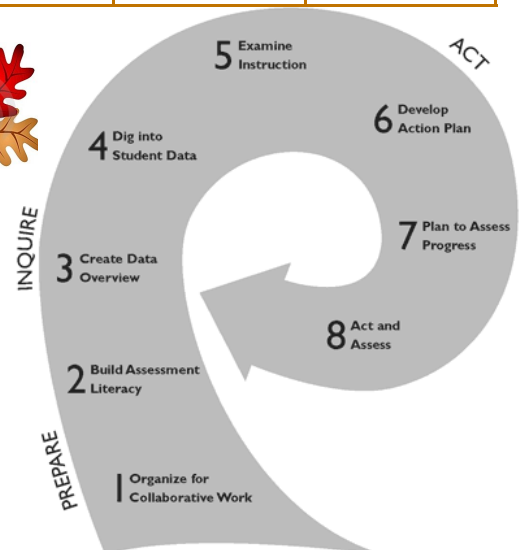
While testing is an important part of measuring progress, how teachers use the resulting data from test results to drive instruction is critical. Advice from our National Education Team member Karen Gayle: "Teachers have the opportunity to use data from assessments to make good decisions when adapting instruction, evaluating progress, highlighting successes and improving weaknesses."

	Formative Assessments	Summative Assessments
Purpose	To improve instruction and provide student feedback	To measure student competency
When	Ongoing throughout unit	End of unit or course
How students use results	To self-monitor understanding	To gauge their progress toward course or grade level goals and benchmarks
How teachers use results	To check for understanding	For grade or promotion



To use student assessment wisely, staff needs skills and abilities to:

- ⇒ Understand data correctly
- ⇒ Collect and display data
- ⇒ Participate productively in group discussions
- ⇒ Create effective action plans




JOY AT WORK

A Revolutionary Approach to Fun on the Job

Data Boards help students set learning goals!





Advanced Reading Challenge

Reading Challenge Coordinator Materials 2010-2011

Shared Values Fairness



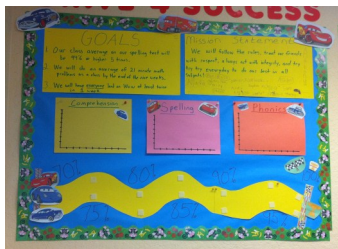
Fairness means treating everyone _____ . Most people respond with, "the same". But fairness actually means to treat everyone "differently." Everyone is unique and deserves to be treat-

ed as an individual. Everyone should be given special treatment. This concept often gets confused with that of equality. Keep in mind that equity and fairness are not synonyms. The logic of equiaty assumes that everyone is the same, but we know that every-

one is not the same. Rather we are unique, and therefore should be treated according, especially at work.

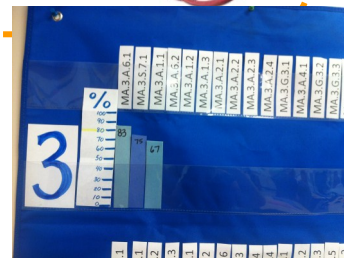


Academic Achievement Data Boards and Chats



Our region is rocking data boards! These visual tools give teachers and students a glance at class progress at

all times. This creates an opportunity for collaborative dialogue on class performances and successes. Data is also discussed within professional learning communities or data chats to provide support and open communication on next steps for learning! Cooperative



problem solving with peers opens up communication to develop and share effective learning strategies.



Advanced Reading Challenge Update

Wow! Check out the total books!

Thank you Coordinators:

ISLC: Rachel Vaughn

ISTC: Michelle VanPortfliet

ISER: Merritt Newell

School



Total students participating:

Total Books Read:

Average per student:

ISLC

95

382

4.02

ISTC

225

421

1.87

ISER

89

341

3.83

North FL Region 409 students

1,144 books

2.79 average

Plan a Vacation for your class

And NEVER LEAVE the roomVirtual Field Trips!



On a virtual field trip, you and your students can go just about anywhere on Earth -- or even out into the solar system!

For a trip to another galaxy, check out <http://nineplants.org> An engineer who has a great love of the solar system put this site together. The star buffs in your classroom will love this multimedia tour of eight planets, one star, moons and more!

For a trip to another environment, how about [Live from Antarctica 2?](http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/antarctica/index.html) <http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/antarctica/index.html> Stu-

dents can follow a team of explorers through every step of their trip across the frozen continent.

Maybe you'd like to take your city kids someplace they might not get the chance to visit on their own. Then check out one of the six virtual tours at 4-H Virtual Farm. Here, students can visit a horse farm, a beef or dairy farm, a poultry farm, and a wheat farm. There's even a fish farm!

These are just a few examples, searching the web you will find many more!

Don't forget:

Almost every museum (science, art, history, natural history) also has a virtual tour.

Check it out -if they aren't free they are at least much cheaper than an actual visit!

“The Virtual Fieldtrip helps students and teachers alike make connections to the community and back to themselves.”

Important (and some random)

Dates in Nov:

- Aviation Month
- Child Safety & Protection Month
- Good Nutrition Month
- International Drum Month
- Latin American Month
- National Epilepsy Month
- National Model Railroad Month
- Peanut Butter Lover's Month

- 1- National Author's day
- 2- Cookie Monster's Birthday
- 3- National Sandwich Day
- 4 -King Tut's Tomb Discovered
- 6- Daylight Savings time ends
- 7 - Scientist Marie Curie's Birthday
- 8 -The X-ray was discovered
- 9 - Holocaust begins in 1938
- 10 -Sesame Street debuted 1969
- 11- Veteran's Day
- 13- National Kindness Day
- 14- National Clean out your Refrigerator Day
- 15- America Recycles Day
- 16 - Button Day
- 17 -Lewis & Clark reached Pacific in 1805
- 18 - Mickey Mouse's Birthday
- 19-Gettysburg Address delivered 1863
- 20 - Mexican Revolution Day
- 21 -World Hello Day-teach it in every language
- 22 -JFK assassinated 1963
- 23- National Cashew Day
- 24 - Thanksgiving
- 29- C.S. Lewis' Birthday
- 30- Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) Bday

Professional Development Book Review

Data Wise: A Step-by-Step Guide to Using Assessment Results to Improve Teaching And Learning
by Kathryn Parker Boudett



\$19.95
new on amazon.com

This book shows how examining test scores and other classroom data can become a catalyst for important school wide conversations that will enhance schools' ability to capture teachers' knowledge, foster collaboration, identify obstacles to change, and enhance school culture and climate. Great for all levels of experience, especially those just starting out. Little to no background knowledge in the area is required to benefit from the book. Lingo and definitions are even given in the beginning.



Get to know the North Florida Team Favorite Family Vacation Destination!

Diane Beatty: Anywhere a cruise ship takes the family, we always have a great time together

Lisa O'Grady: Ft. Walton Beach, once a year get-away without the kids!

Suezan Turknett: Kilkenny, Ireland

Linda Williams: Williamsburg, Virginia

Mary Briggs: Hawaii with Kevin and Andrew

Jennifer Fornes: Tennessee visiting Family

Stephania Sherman: Disney with the hubby

Cathi Cohen: Lovers Beach in Cabo

Lorna Potter: Tennessee

Jenny Norris: Hometown Fayetteville, TN

Jessica Duran: Gatlinburg, TN

Parent Tip

Top 3 Ways to Use Parent Volunteers!

Mystery Visits

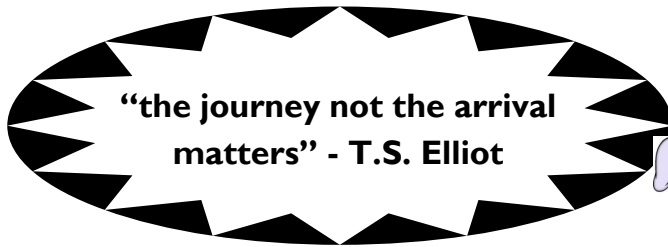
Once a week a mystery relative visits with a snack and a presentation. It can be reading a story or talking about their job or perhaps sharing a hobby or a mini book talk. The kids love seeing their fathers, mothers, grandparents etc and it is a minimal commitment!

Parent Center

Create a special place in the room where parents are directed to go when they arrive. Create an ongoing list of several activities that need to be done such as one-on-one, compile packets, prep for activity, change bulletin boards, etc. the activities change to your needs. Also keep a place for them to share ideas or questions!

At home tasks for busy parents

Have activities that parents can do at home like make playdough, update the website, sharpen pencils, conduct research for upcoming lessons, organize class photographs, edit newsletter, fold and staple packets, etc.



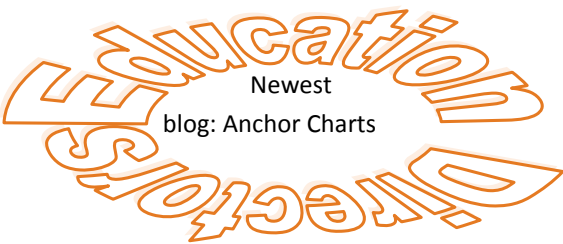
Region Celebrations:



November Birthdays

- 11/1 Peggy Wamback
- 11/2 James Gardner
- 11/2 Melody Guider
- 11/3 Lori Winger
- 11/5 Josh Freeman

- 11/17 Robert McVey
- 11/15 Emily Bist
- 11/18 Michelle Zachary
- 11/21 Joyce Crawford
- 11/28 Amanda Longest
- 11/30 Suezan Turknett



Check out the blog our Ed Directors have started:

<http://imagineeducators.webs.com>

Not only are they blogging but there is a very cool picture gallery with each school!

Take a peek and share some thoughts - blogged lately?! 😊



Share your celebrations with our region....had a baby? Get married? Tell us - just email me!

Just married!



Joshua Freeman from Imagine South Lake married his wife Lauren on Oct 15 in Lake Mary, FL then honeymooned in Costa Rica!

Soon to be married!

Amanda Longest from Imagine South Lake to wed Zachary Martin on Saturday Nov 19