



## Classroom Updates:

Mrs. Shaske We are taking time to meet with each child for Showcase of Learning. Please see anchor binders on Tuesday, for Showcase of learning confirmation notes for the scheduled presentations on Wednesday, February 20th and Thursday, February 28th. In addition, Running Record assessments will be shared during Showcase of Learning.

Mrs. Bruce

Friendly reminder that Yearbooks on sale for \$15.00. The due date for this sale is Thursday, February 21st. Below are the categories the Valentine's Day committee decided upon for the box decorating contest. Please read the letter that was sent home in our Thursday folders about the Valentine's Day expectations for the card exchange. We are looking forward to a lovely celebration with our classes.



### Valentine's Day Box Decoration Contest

- Most colorful
- Most detailed
- Most creative
- Most humorous
- Sportiest
- Most Hearts

## Math Updates: Geometric Attributes

To learn the lengthy standards of Geometry standards, students will be creating an aerial view of their own landscape. Each person will complete this task incorporating all for the Geometric features noted below. You can see their project summary here: [Geometric Attributes Town Drawing](#)

This standard asks students to draw two-dimensional geometric objects and to also identify them in two-dimensional figures. This is the first time that students are exposed to rays, angles, and perpendicular and parallel lines.

	Right angle	
	Acute angle	
	Obtuse angle	
	Straight	

Examples of points, line segments, lines, angles, parallelism, and perpendicularity can be seen daily. Students do not easily identify lines and rays because they are more abstract.

Fourth Grade Critical Area of Focus #3, Understanding that geometric figures can be analyzed and classified based on their properties, such as having parallel sides, particular angle measures, and symmetry.

**Angles:** Students can and should make geometric distinctions about angles without measuring or mentioning degrees. Angles should be classified in comparison to right angles, such as greater than, less than, or the same size as a right angle. Students can use the corner of a sheet of paper as a benchmark for a right angle. They can use a right angle to determine relationships of other angles.

**Angle Measurement:** This expectation is closely connected to 4.MD.5, 4.MD.6, and 4.G.1. Students' experiences with drawing and identifying right, acute, and obtuse angles support them in classifying two-dimensional figures based on specified angle measurements. They use the benchmark angles of  $90^\circ$ ,  $180^\circ$ , and  $360^\circ$  to approximate the measurement of angles. Right triangles can be a category for classification. A right triangle has one right angle. There are different types of right triangles. An isosceles right triangle has two or more congruent sides and a scalene right triangle has no congruent sides.

**Symmetry:** When introducing line of symmetry, provide examples of geometric shapes with and without lines of symmetry. Shapes can be classified by the existence of lines of symmetry in sorting activities. This can be done informally by folding paper, tracing, creating designs with tiles or investigating reflections in mirrors. With the use of a dynamic geometric program, students can easily construct points, lines and geometric figures. They can also draw lines perpendicular or parallel to other line segments. Students need experiences with figures which are symmetrical and non-symmetrical. Figures include both regular and non-regular polygons. Folding cut-out figures will help students determine whether a figure has one or more lines of symmetry. Give student experience with many shapes that can be folded to determine if they have symmetry. Block letter of the alphabet is one set that students can explore. Students can search magazines to find shapes that are symmetrical and fold to show the line of symmetry. The use of mirrors help students see and draw line to show symmetry. The reflection from a mirror helps students see symmetry. Pattern blocks and tangrams are also useful tools in discovering symmetry.

**Common Misconceptions:** Students believe a wide angle with short sides may seem smaller than a narrow angle with long sides. Students can compare two angles by tracing one and placing it over the other. Students will then realize that the length of the sides does not determine whether one angle is larger or smaller than another angle. The measure of the angle does not change. Some children may think that there can only be one line of symmetry for an object. Encourage them to try folding shapes in more than one way. Giving students multiple copies of the same shapes could help avoid confusion. Coloring one side of the line one color and the other side of the line a different color may

aid in seeing multiple lines. In essence the student is seeing if the shape can be folded into halves.

[GeoGebra](#) is a free dynamic software for learning and teaching.

Tools/  
Resources

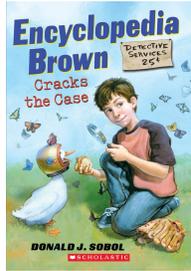
- 4.G [The Geometry of Letters](#)
- 4.G [What's the Point?](#)
- 4.MD,G [Measuring Angles](#)
- 4.MD,G [Finding an unknown angle](#)
- 4.G [Are these right?](#)
- 4.G [What shape am I?](#)
- 4.G [Defining Attributes of Rectangles and Parallelograms](#)
- 4.G [What is a Trapezoid? \(Part 1\)](#)

## Writing for Social Studies: Quilts & Their Role in Laura Ingalls Wilder's Life

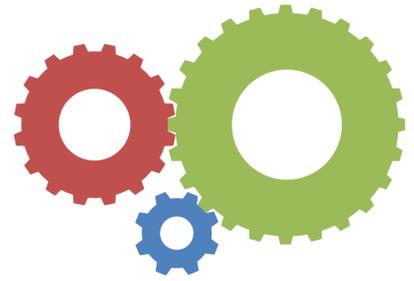
Children and adults alike continue to be fascinated by the engaging tale of what life was like during the pioneer era. In an age when people had to make do to survive, quilting played a natural and vital role. Sewing skills in general were important in the lives of women on the prairie. Caroline Ingalls understood the importance of teaching her children to sew. In a time before central heating, when a warm home in the winter might only be 55 degrees, having a large number of quilts was a matter of survival. Quilts were not only used for bedding, but they were also hung in windows and doorways to block drafts. They were hung from ropes to create 'divisions' in an otherwise one-room cabin, providing privacy in cramped quarters. They were also used as padding to protect precious belongings when traveling cross country. Caroline's marriage in 1860 coincided with the start of the Civil War. Fabric production was put on hold while wartime needs were met. As precious bits of fabric, batting, and even thread were used to supply soldiers, the style of quilting changed to reflect the limited resources available. Whereas quilts of the 1850s were made of store-bought fabric, quilts of wartime America were made of precious scraps and recycled, worn clothing. By the time Mary and Laura were born in 1865 and 1867, not only had the War just ended, but Charles and Caroline were living in the wilderness. Trips to town were far and few between, and reserved for necessities. When clothing could no longer be cut down and remade, the fabric was then recycled into quilts. Pieces that were too tiny to be a piece of patchwork were sewn together to make a piece large enough to become usable in patchwork. QUILTING WITH LAURA INGALLS WILDER BY LINDA HALPIN

As you know, we are attending the "The Little House Quilts of Laura Ingalls Wilder" Muskego High School Play. We will be learning about Laura Ingalls Wilder, and the genre historical fiction prior to the field trip. Additionally, we will time warp to the 1870s, to experience and learn about daily life at that time. Students will be writing an Information Book, including perspective of people during the mid to late 1800s.

Reading : Shifting Our Literacy Gears from NONFICTION...to...Mystery

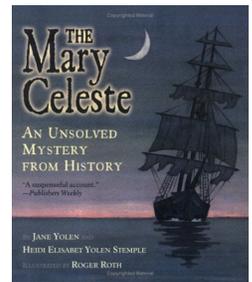


After finishing our nonfiction selections during the next three weeks, we will shift our literacy guided reading groups to the mystery genre. Plot, figurative language, and suspense features will be emphasized in our close reading of the chapter books.



In addition, students will continue to apply questioning skills, vocabulary acquisition strategies, and discussion talk moves when analyzing their text. View the link provided to peruse the discussion techniques the students have used in their realistic and nonfiction genres. [Talk moves for discussion groups](#).

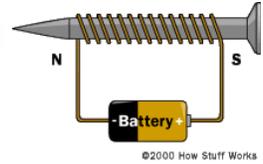
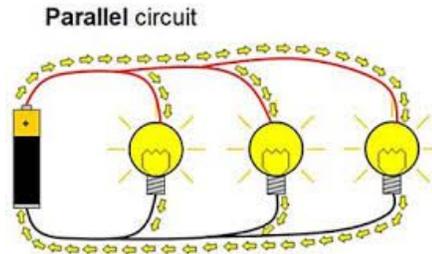
During our Language Workshop sessions the mentor text by Donald Sobol Encyclopedia Brown Cracks the Case book will be used to study mystery genre features such as mood, tone, suspense, onomatopoeia, red herring, alibi, and sleuth. Comparing and contrasting this mystery to a former nonfiction text, The Mary Celeste will encourage deep analysis about the similarities, differences in text structures, purposes. Looking forward to becoming close reading sleuths!



## Science: Shocking Insights about Energy, Electricity, and Magnetism

How can you get two bulbs to light at the same time? What's the difference between series and parallel circuits? These are two focus questions that students will explore when completing investigations in science class. Each group will be creating circuits to light two bulb circuits. Through trial and error the students will learn how to create series and parallel circuits successfully to light two bulbs in these two circuit examples. In addition, they will analyze the advantages of parallel circuit formations. Energy sources will be explored. Namely, dry cell and solar cell energy sources will be used in energizing the series and parallel circuits. After our fascinating exploration of circuit forms, we will shift our

focus to magnetism. Get energized fourth graders for some shocking insights about electricity!



## NED: I Got Caught Doing Something Good

Jacpb Kopec earns a NED award for doing his best to model the R.A.C.E. constructive response strategy when completing his evidence from the text.

Bara Vokurkova earns a NED award for doing her best to encourage others to use whole body listening strategies during classroom discussions.



Did you ...  
**N**ever give up  
**E**ncourage others  
**D**o your best.  
 ... this week?

Jaelynn for doing her best.

Calvin for being focused during small group instruction.

## Birthdays:



True Birthdays	Alyssa (11), Lily (19), Mallory (24)
1/2 Birthdays	Jayden M (22), Calvin (24), and Lucas' (25)

