

Name \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

# Home-School Connection #26

4/30/15

Write at least 4 discussion questions

**COMMUNITY MEETING:** You did an amazing job. Different students and teachers came up to me (Ms. S) and asked where I got the ideas. I said the ideas were yours. You worked hard while there was a lot going on. You did research, wrote note cards, practiced the delivery of your presentations and then "performed" or took photos (thank you Sola). What did you think of how it went? What did you learn from the experience?



**LEARNING FROM ANTS:** I (Ms. S) shared the work of a biologist named Deborah Gordon who studies ants. Her work shows one reason ants are successful is due to the fact that they have no boss: [Click here](#) or [here for](#) more information. I was thinking about that and how it connects to our classroom. We do need leaders but In my opinion, good leaders **help people to see their**

**own importance and impact on others rather than scaring or forcing them to work.** 5S does its best work like the community meeting, ocean action, rivertable, and family posters when you are inspired. On the other hand, sometimes you ignore directions and distract others. What would make you change? Talk to your parents about times they have seen themselves or others make a **positive change**. If it didn't work, why was this? How does Deborah Gordon's ant work connect to this?

**BIRD SANCTUARY:** Because you went into the back of the school to our bird sanctuary and cleaned it up, the town put down mulch and it looks better out there. What lesson does this teach? What do you think we ought to do next for our bird sanctuary?

**OCEAN ACTION:** Rather than just saying, "Please help save the oceans," what action project(s) are you thinking we could do as a class? For example, Nina is thinking of getting extended day to recycle their snack cups. Risa was thinking of shifting plasticware at Driscoll to silverware. Jiashu was going to look into how much water the school uses. Ms. Stark was wondering whether it is better for the environment to use the dishwasher or plasticware? Talk to your parents about what we could do to help the ocean right in our school and town. We are going to raise more money and awareness at the spring fair. We have to decide where to donate the money you have and will raise. Any ideas?

**BREATHING EASY AND MEDITATION:** We had a lot going on this week. It was fun to get ready for community meeting and mcas and all our other projects, but at times I thought you could use a little break. We did some breathing exercises. Ask your parents if they do any kinds of meditation or breathing exercises. What helps them relax? What helps you?

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**URBAN IMPROV:** You had the last one. It was about imagination. Describe what you did and talk about how improv can help you in other parts of your life.

Think  
=Improv

## NEWS IN THE WORLD:

- **The** supreme court is deciding if gay marriage will be legal in every state in our country or if it will be up to individual states to decide. Right now 36 out of 50 states have legalized gay marriages. Ask your parents their opinion on this. You can learn more here: <http://www.npr.org/blogs/itsallpolitics/2015/04/27/402456198/legal-battle-over-gay-marriage-hits-the-supreme-court-tuesday>
- Huge earthquake in Nepal Over 5,000 people have died. Talk about what we learned about earthquakes and fault lines. Also, more earthquakes happening from hydraulic fracturing (fracking). <http://www.npr.org/2015/04/23/401624166/oklahomans-feel-way-more-earthquakes-than-californians-now-they-know-why>
- You read the latest TFK. What was in the news?

**APRIL MORNING:** We are watching a movie about the day the American Revolution started.

Click here for more information about the movie: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/April\\_Morning](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/April_Morning)

What is the movie teaching you that a textbook or book might not?

**MATH AND SCIENCE MCAS:** What have you learned about taking tests? What might you do to prepare so you are as relaxed and confident as possible?

**MORNING MEETING TOPICS & ACTIVITIES:** You have had done some new and creative ideas you learned from Urban Improv and Improv. What are the benefits to morning meeting? Do you like how it is evolving?

**SPECIALS/OTHER:** We missed art because of early dismissal. Discuss PE, Chinese, Library, Music, Conservatory, Track and field, Ocean Blue or anything else connected to school that is on your mind: What did you discuss? \_\_\_\_\_

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Due: Tuesday: We made a time to do this on: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature & Comments

Student rating (1-5) Please say why and which topics lead to the most in-depth discussions.