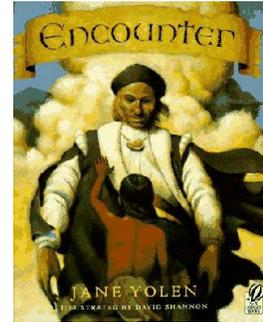


5th Home-School Connection

October 9, 2014

Write at least 3 discussion questions based on what you now know about powerful questions

- COLUMBUS DAY:** On Monday, October 13th, you have no school. Why? Because the United States has a *federal* holiday to honor Christopher Columbus. He is known as the person who *discovered* America. Discovered is a tricky word. What were you thinking when I told you I had *discovered* just the right lunchbox for me? It had no name and included food I like and a water bottle. Some of you were wondering, “Has Ms. Stark lost some of her marbles? Does she really think that she can claim Anika’s lunchbox?” Before you decided you might have to run out of the room, I read to you from the book ‘Encounter’. See photo above – or look at the online summary & review. http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/81156.Encounter#other_reviews



The story is told *from the point of view* of a Taino boy who was there when Columbus first arrived. How might one of Columbus’ crew have told the same story? How about Columbus? This is called “perspective taking” It’s an interesting exercise. Try it out. Ask your parents if their schools taught them how Columbus took Taino people away and made them slaves? If your parents went to school in another country, ask them about explorers and other people who were put in their history books or who might have been left out. In some cities like Seattle and Minneapolis. They turned Columbus Day into Indigenous People’s Day. You can read about it here: <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/columbus-day-now-indigenous-peoples-day-seattle-and-minneapolis-180952958/?no-ist> What do you and your parents think about Columbus Day? Should it be a holiday?

THE ART AND ARCHITECTURE OF POWERFUL QUESTIONS: Thursday, you heard about the article by Eric Vogt called, *The Art and Architecture of Powerful Questions*. I put it on our website in [Educational Links](#). First we focused on the architecture of questions. Explain to your parents the pyramid of words that make questions more powerful. Today, you turned the question: Do you like to read? into a whole host of deeper more thoughtful questions. For example, you said things like, “How does reading influence you and why?” I was so impressed with your thinking and ideas. Practice taking simple questions and making them more powerful with your mom or dad. For example, try turning this question into one that is more powerful? Do you think math is good to know?

STEP-OUT- ZOOM IN POETRY: In honor of the glorious October weather and our focus on the environment, you had a chance to write a poem about a place or natural object. What did you choose to focus on? Ask your mom and/or dad what they might write about. Do you think someone could paint a picture of what you wrote based on your words? Try making the next sentence more vivid. **The cow was in the field.** Now use words to paint a picture so we can see that cow in the field.

ANNIVERSA-READ/45 BOOK CHALLENGE : Speaking of words, on Thursday, we had our first Anniversa-Read! How did it go? Please show your parents the list of boulders or things that make reading just right. What genre of book did you read that will go on the 45 Book Challenge?. Show the letter to your parents. Perhaps you can set aside some time each week to talk about what each of you are reading.

MATH-CHAPTER 2/DREAM SPACES: We've started Chapter 2. It's called, *Multiplication and Large numbers*. You are learning how to solve multiplication problems with larger numbers, multiples of 10 and by breaking down larger numbers into area models (like floor plans). This lead us to design our own Dream Spaces. Your rough drafts blew my socks right off my feet. Describe your space to your parent(s). Discuss the math that goes with this project. What spaces would you parents create?

SOMETHING ELSE?

- Computer Lab and Laptops
- Web-nesday this week
- We made our first Constitutional Amendment (religion)
- Latest TFK and your questions
- Music
- Art
- P.E.
- COB
- Chinese
- Library
- Something else? _____

Circle the ones you discussed

Due: TUESDAY (No school for Columbus Day). We made a time to do this on: _____
Parent Signature and Comments:

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

