

**WHAT WE ARE LEARNING IN FIFTH GRADE**

**RELIGION**

We are now beginning Unit 3, The Eucharist. These chapters further stress the importance of The Eucharist in our lives. Through the Bible and from Jesus we learn about God. We will further study the parts of the New and Old Testaments. The Old Testament is about the covenants God made with his people and the New Testament is about the new covenant sealed by Jesus' death and Resurrection. We will also begin Family Life portion of the curriculum. The books will go home next week.

**MATHEMATICS**

We have just begun to explore fraction concepts. Factors, divisibility, prime factorization, greatest common factor, least common multiple, equivalent fractions, fractions in simplest forms, comparing and ordering fractions, and problem solving skills are being covered in this chapter. This chapter is thirteen lessons long, so there will be a quiz half way through the chapter. We will end the year with Fraction Computation.

**LANGUAGE ARTS (READING, ENGLISH, SPELLING AND HANDWRITING)**

We have just completed the last unit on the Parts-of-Speech and are now doing a year in review. We will have a cumulative test that covers all the Parts-of-Speech. At the same time we will begin research on assigned states. We are hoping scratch the surface of how to do a proper research paper. We will incorporate the tools in the Step-up to writing program.

**SCIENCE AND HEALTH**

We will be learning about severe weather and the ability to predict such weather. At the mid-May point we will be studying the Solar System.

**HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE**

We are half way through the "Causes of the Revolution" and laying the foundation of the "Revolutionary War." In Unit 5 we are keeping track of the sequence of events by instituting the use of timeline cards. These cards will hopefully give our students a tool for the building blocks of success. They should read them at least twice a day. This will definitely allow them to see the benefits of small reviews over large amounts of cramming.

**COMPUTER EDUCATION**

In computers we continue to do cross-curricular activities. We are working in HyperStudio to complete a presentation timeline of the events leading up to the Declaration of Independence and the call for a revolution. We are also going to cover Shield the Vulnerable in the first couple of weeks in May. When time permits they may participate in Athletics.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION, ART, AND MUSIC**

Ms. Weber is getting the class ready for the spring concert. She has them reading music and playing the recorder. The class is learning quite a bit about timing, beat, and rhythm. The concert should be very entertaining. Mr. Ford has now transitioned the class into basketball. His constant instruction is based on proper participation, teamwork, and fun.