

The News from Room 209

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Moon Journals

Did you happen to see the moon this morning? The kids have their moon journals home for the weekend and I have asked them to make 2 entries. Several asked if they could do more. Hmmm. I gave that request 2 thumbs up! The journal work will become the basis for our first big project. I appreciate your support in encouraging them in their work and in returning the journal to school each day.

Conferences

Goal Setting Conferences are underway. Let me know when you are available to meet. Conference planning sheets came home in backpacks on Monday.

Stamp Club

Thursday was the first meeting of the Barton Stamp Club. Nora, Wes, and Paul joined other "old members" from Patty's class to introduce the new members to

Our membership campaign was a success! All of the new students signed up! Next week's presentation topic: Soaking, (getting stamps off the paper from the envelope) followed by some practice.

Friday Architects

Yesterday was the first meeting of the Friday Architects (the students in 209 and 211). We spent our meeting time studying spoons! Sounds pretty exciting, right? Well, the real excitement comes next week when Patty accepts the "spoon challenge" from me! (Don't ask. You will just have to wait.) Actually, the spoon provides a great opportunity to discuss the ideas of form and function, which are key to the study of structures.

These essential understandings are the learning goals for this yearlong study.

- **Everything has a structure.** Structure is the organization of the individual parts.
- **Every structure has form and function.** Form (shape) and function (purpose) are interconnected.
- **The materials and shape determine the strength of a structure.** The properties of the geometric shapes determine the construction of manmade objects.
- **Architecture is the art and science of designing and construction buildings and other physical structures.** Architects draw elevations, plans and sectional views of buildings to explain their designs.
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Art Adventures

I still need volunteers for the Art Adventures program. At this time no one has signed up for Room 209. You do not need to have a background in art. You will be well trained and supported.

This volunteer position entails:

- attending 2/5 hours of training at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts (9/24, 10/2, or 10/30)
- leading classroom sessions to review reproductions of art pieces (November); dates to be determined
- joining us on the MIA tour
- typically volunteers work in pairs

On the Calendar

Tues 9/30 – Fri 10/3 – Swimming at the Blaisdell YMCA