

Home-School Connection # 20

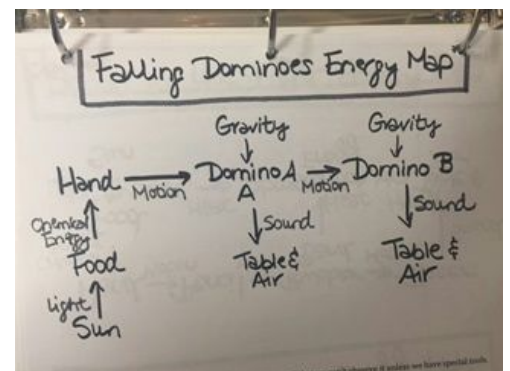
2/25/16

TEACHER/STUDENT COLLABORATION EDITION

I have written the first page. You do the next page. Pick at least **3 Topics** from the 12 options. For the ones you pick, write a description of what we did and what it made you think about. Then write at least one discussion question about it. More is fine.

ENERGY: 5S Makes Things Happen

This week we thought about where does energy come from and where does it go? Dr. Henderson, a substitute for Ms. Cuddihy read you a book called "Energy Makes Things Happen". The book showed you how motion energy (also called kinetic) can make things happen- like wind can move a sailboat or a girl can swing a bat that makes sound and pushes the ball into the air. Some things store energy like an unlit candle, a battery, a carrot or a rock at the top of a hill. These things have "potential" energy. I showed you some energy maps that show how energy is transferred from place to place. On the right is a small photo of one:



You then got to experiment a bit with the "smashing steel spheres". Describe as best you can **the evidence** you observed when there was an interaction between the two spheres.

How could you **prove** that motion energy transferred into sound and heat energy?

After that, it was time to create a fair test to prove what happens when objects collide (hit each other). We had to review what makes something a fair test. You had to have your question, prediction, materials, plan, experiment, observations and conclusion. We had to be clear about what were the constants (control group) and what was the variable. Please describe these to your parent.

The question was how far will Marble B travel when different amounts of energy transfer from Marble A to Marble B? You made a prediction and then conducted the experiment. Describe what happened to Marble B when Marble A was pushed harder. What types of energy did you observe?

Based on what you observed with Marble A and B, you will have a chance to do a different fair test. Instead of the variable being how hard you pushed the marble, some of you now want to test if the size of the marble matters or what happens if you replace the marbles with toy cars or what happens if you change the height of the ramp, etc. Discuss what test you think you will do next.

What questions do you have about energy?

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- TIME FOR KIDS: Stephen Curry, Justice Antonin Scalia, The debate over homework over break, Westminster Dog show, the Eagle who catches Drones, etc.
- MORNING MEETING TOPICS THIS WEEK: your vacation in two words, your favorite number and why, planet you'd create, fictional mode of transportation for world travel
- VOLUME: finding the volume, noticing patterns in volume with cubes, puzzles with nets to cubes, etc. How is 3D geometry different from other kinds of math?
- GETTYSBURG ADDRESS VIDEO & COMMUNITY MEETING
- ELEVEN by Sandra Cisneros: Describe it.
- CONDUCTING A BOOK GROUP- Folder Holder, entrance and exit sheet
- READING RESPONSE CRITERIA:
- FINISHING REVOLUTIONARY POSTERS
- FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR
- EXERCISE AND GOALS IN DRAGON BOOK
- SPECIALS: Art, music, C.O.B., P.E. Chinese _____
- Other? _____

Due MONDAY : We made a time to do this on:_____ Parent Signature & Comments:

***Note to parents,** please make sure your child has read this before sitting down to talk with you.

Was your child prepared? Other comments?

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