

Effort is one of those things that gives meaning to life. Effort means you care about something, that something is important to you and you are willing to work for it.

Carol Dweck

The Raccoon Reporter

Riverton Elementary



GROWTH MINDSET

2016-17 RIVERTON ELEMENTARY THEME

IMPORTANT DATES

Principal's Message

by Cindy Tingey

It has been a wonderful adventure this year! Students have been working hard this month to complete their SAGE testing. We are so proud of their diligence as well as their willingness to try their best.

As we wind down the school year, we ask that you please take a moment to ensure that the following items have been taken care of:

- Lunch balance
- Library books
- Lost and found. *All items will be donated at the end of the year.*
- Kindergarten registration
- Educational Request forms
- Toys/sports equipment left in classroom.

The summer months are a great time to help your child strengthen his/her skills. Take a moment to contact your child's teacher to see if they have any suggestions for summer practice specific to your child. Some general ideas include:

- Use flashcards to practice sight words or math facts after dinner.
- Have your child write his/her opinion about what they observed at a museum.



- Practice calendaring and planning by allowing your child to write in events/activities on the family calendar.
- Start a book club with neighborhood friends and host a book club party/discussion.
- Find free software online to practice math facts or reading skills.
- Read every day!

Thank you for a wonderful year!

Dads and Donuts

Students can invite their dad/guardian for a donut from 7:30-8:30 AM.

May 5

ALPS Orientation

Students and guardians are invited to come for information about ALPS at 2:00 PM.

May 5

Orchestra Concert

Patrons are invited to attend at 6:30 PM.

May 10

Choir Concert

Patrons are invited to attend at 7:15 PM.

May 10

Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night

Come for a treat or dinner from 5-7 PM. A portion of proceeds goes to our school!

May 16

Birthday Bunch!

Parents/guardians are invited to sit with their student during lunch.

May 24

Memorial Day Holiday

No school.

May 29

Field Day

A fire truck will spray students. Students should bring a towel and clothes that can get wet.

June 2

Last day of School!

June 2

Below are some simple activities that you can try at home to continue to instill a growth mindset:

More activities found at calserves.org

Dinner time activity-----

Show the following pictures from "Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain":

<http://www.drawright.com/>

Example discussion questions:



1. Is drawing a talent or a skill? What do you think the difference is between each of the pairs of pictures?
2. How long do you think it took for these artists to improve from the drawing on the left of the pair to the drawing on the right of the pair? (answer: maximum of five days!)
3. Is there any kind of activity that "intimidates" you that you think you might be able to learn or improve upon with learning and practice?

Activity to get you moving-----

The purpose of this activity is to repurpose a familiar game to give younger students a very basic, conceptual model on how neurons pass along information. You will need to look up how neurons work and relate this activity to the functioning of neurons in your brain.

Materials:

- A large group (preferably 7 or more)
- A large space/chairs
- A stack of cards with names of participants

Preparation:

1.) Mark out a series of spots using chairs or some other type of marker in a large or approximate circle. There should be as many spots as there are participants and additionally, 1 spot in the middle (imagine the axle on a wheel).

2.) Write down the names of participants on separate blank cards (index cards are preferred). Place this deck of names face down on the middle spot.

3.) Have your participants each sit on a chair at separate points in the circle.

How this all goes down:

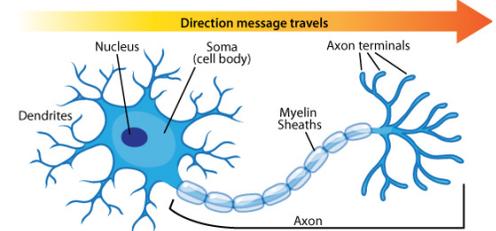
1.) When all the participants are sitting down except for one, start the stop watch and pass him or her a written down word, phrase, or sentence to remember.

2.) After memorizing it, instruct that person to run to the center and turn over a card. He or she will then run towards the person whose name is written on the revealed card and relay the word, phrase, or sentence as quietly as possible.

3.) The person who receives the message will repeat the process by revealing a new name from the center spot and telling that person the message. If anyone other than the runner and receive hears the message during the game's duration, the group has to restart or perhaps just receive a time penalty.

4.) The instructor measures the time it takes for the participants to empty the deck (i.e. go through everyone once). The last person up will tell the instructor the phrase and the first person will then say how close it was to the original phrase (instructor can verify).

Suggestion: Repeat the game three times. First, use a word. Second, use a phrase. Third, use a sentence. This activity should serve as a fun analogue to introduce a very simple model of neuron messaging.



We need more responses!

We feel it is extremely important to communicate the mission, vision, goals and happenings at Riverton Elementary to parents and the community. We piloted the newsletter this year and we want your feedback! We want to see if it was effective or if there is a more desirable way to communicate.

Spotlight Event

Our two Math Olympiad teams competed at the District competition in April. They placed 1st and 3rd overall in the team competition! They worked extremely hard and it paid off.

We want to thank Ms. Korones for her dedication to Math Olympiad and providing students with a great experience!

Teacher Spotlight

Mrs. Tanner Grade: 3rd

This is Mrs. Tanner's 12th year teaching and we are very fortunate to have her at Riverton Elementary! She received her Bachelor's Degree at the U of U.

Mrs. Tanner has been out of the country 4 times!

She has three kids and two pets.

Mrs. Tanner prefers happy endings over scary movies!

Her dominant personality color is blue.

