

St. Teresa-St. Rita STREAM Academy

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www.StSrStreamAcademy.com

June 2024

Dear Parents,

The summer reading assignments for students entering first grade in September of 2024 will be I Wanna New Room, written by Karen Kaufman Orloff and A Girl Can Build Anything, by E.E. Charlton-Trujillo. Our focus is to incorporate our English Language Arts curriculum with our topic of STREAM, Engineering and Design.

In our first book, I Wanna New Room, the main character is a boy who desperately wants to have a room of his own! The students will start to imagine a planning phase of the engineering design process while creating their own dream room. We will be learning about such topics as area, perimeter, cost of materials and as well as realistic design plans. Our second read, A Girl Can Build Anything, empowers all with the ability to do anything! This book motivates students to dream big, work hard and bring their ideas to life. We will also be inspired to design and construct our ideas using only popsicle sticks and glue. This will encourage self-expression and allow all readers to believe that they can create anything. The students will explore these STREAM activities by trial and error in our classroom together when we return in September. Please share and enjoy these reading experiences together this summer.

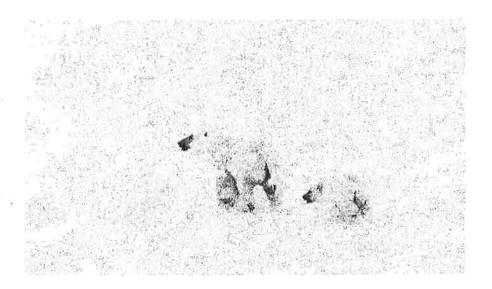
Your child will also receive a packet of reading comprehension activities as well as some basic addition and subtraction facts as review and reinforcement. These should be completed throughout the summer. These assignments should be returned the first week of school.

Have a healthy and beautiful summer. I am looking forward to meeting you and your child very soon!

Sincerely,

Ms. Christine Borik

A Baby Polar Bear Grows Up



Polar bears live in ice and snow. A polar bear baby is a cub. A cub is born with its eyes closed. It does not have much hair. A cub drinks its mother's milk. The mother keeps the cub warm.

The cub grows bigger. Soon the cub can walk. Its mother shows it how to hunt. She shows it how to swim. The cub likes to play. It rolls in the snow.

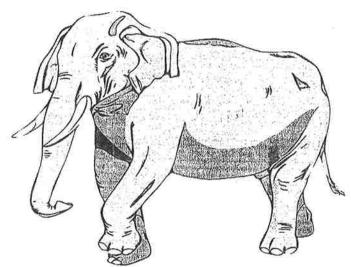
The cub grows stronger. The cub learns to swim. It can find its own food. Now the cub can live by itself.

Name	: Date:
Direc	tions: For questions 1-4, circle the correct answer.
1. Wh	at is a cub?
b) a baby polar bear) a fish) a grown up polar bear
	e passage describes a polar bear that is born. What is a pola ike when it is first born?
b)	It likes to play and roll in the snow. Its eyes are closed and it does not have much hair. It can swim and find its own food.
	polar bear cub can walk, play, and swim, what do we know the cub?
b)	The cub was just born. The cub grew bigger since it was born. The cub cannot live in ice and snow.
4. Wh	at is "A Baby Polar Bear Grows Up" mostly about?
b)	what a polar bear cub must learn to live by itself what a newborn cub is like what a newborn cub is like and what it must learn to live by itself
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7. Class Discussion Question: Why is it important for a polar bear to learn how to hunt and swim? Use information from the passage to support your answer.

An Elephant's Excellent Trunk



Everything about an elephant is big. It has big ears. It has big eyes and big tusks. It can weigh as much as a school bus!

An elephant also has a long trunk. It uses its trunk to breathe and to smell. It uses its trunk to find leaves and fruits to eat. An elephant can shower itself with its trunk. It sucks up water and sprays its back.

A mother elephant can hold her baby close with her trunk. She can even use her trunk to help lift her baby or move it away from

Name:	Date:	An Elephant's Excellent Trunk
Directi	ons: For questions 1-4, circle the correct	
1. What	t elephant body part is most of this passa	age about?
b) t	ears trunk eyes	
2. How	are elephants described at the beginning	of this passage?
b) E	Everything about an elephant is big. Elephants are small animals. Some elephants live in a zoo.	
3. What and spra	is an elephant doing when an elephant says its back?	sucks up water
b) d	howering or cleaning itself rinking poling itself off	
a) ar	is "An Elephant's Excellent Trunk" mostly n elephant's body parts hat elephants can do with their trunks	/ about?
c) ho	Wan clophant was a	

c) how an elephant washes itself

. A) What can an e	lephant use	e its trunk for	?	
) Draw a picture of	an elephar	nt using its tr	unk.	The state of the s
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7. Class Discussion Question: Discuss as a class all of the things that elephants can do with their trunk. Then discuss which body parts you use to do the same things. For example, an elephant uses its trunk to breathe and smell. We use our nose (and mouth) to breathe and smell. As a challenge, try to decide what human body part an elephant trunk is most similar to. Be sure to support your idea with information from the text.

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Name _____ Date ____

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