



## Monday Update: April 30

Math: The great SOL review continues!  
This week we focus on elapsed time

(remember the T-chart!), measurement conversion (ask your child about their silly sentence!), and the distributive property. The SOL test is May 17 (no calculator) and May 18. Homework will be focusing on review activities that have students practicing skills already taught!

The Math tab on our blog has a LOT of great resources for practicing specific concepts, as well as some SOL practice sites with released VDOE test items :)

Science: This week we continue to study Matter (SOL 5.4), focusing on positive protons and neutral neutrons in the nucleus of an atom making up the atomic mass, and tiny negative orbiting the nucleus. This unit is very abstract and tricky. If you can find ways to help your child understand these models and concepts, such as video clips or eBooks on Discovery education, or other videos on Brain Pop or Study Jams, it would be very beneficial! Try pointing out common mixtures (chex mix or trail mix) versus a solution where one substance dissolves in another (like your sugar in your coffee!!). What about a suspension, like salad dressing? How can that be explained? Once concept that students find difficult in this unit is the difference between the atom of a pure element versus a

molecule of a whole new compound (like water or salt), made of two or more elements!

**Please be sure that your child completes their study contract NIGHTLY!** Don't let them fall behind! They are welcome to work ahead in order to accommodate after-school practices, games, or other family commitments! Check out the Science tab on the blog for some great, well organized review sites!!

**Language Arts:** We have begun SOL Survivor as we work to review material from the year! Your student should still work on their Study Island contracts. Students are expected to complete online "quizzes" to help them see where they are within different topics. Can't believe we are already reviewing- thank you for your support! **Please remind your student to come to school with their game face on, ready to review! We need to use our time wisely and minimize instruction!**

As always, please encourage your child to read and to find books they are interested in! They can be working on their reading challenges!

**Social Studies:** We have now moved on to studying the Southwest Region, which only has 4 states: Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, and Oklahoma! Remember: those Northeast, Southeast, and Midwest states have NOT gone away! Keep pulling out those notes and flashcards! Eventually our fifth graders will be asked know ***all*** 50 states and capitals!!

# Important Announcements:

- Field Day is on Friday, May 4!!! Lunch is around 11am (check with your child's teacher for a specific schedule).
- Please continue to check PowerSchool regularly with your child. Don't forget to click *each* subject's grade, then look for the "missing" symbol (🕒) to know if an assignment has not been completed! Here is a link with directions for setting up your parent portal on PowerSchool!

<http://henricoschools.us/powerschool/>