

# October Newsletter

Mrs. Maness - September 30, 2015

## Quick Notes

- For the latest happenings and the most important information, please visit our class website at [www.fourthgraderock.weebly.com](http://www.fourthgraderock.weebly.com).

## Reading

In our newest unit, **Nature's Delicate Balance**, we will be reading selections dealing with issues of concern to our environment and the natural world. Students will read about the water cycle by following the "life" of a snowflake. They will also read selections about energy, food chains & webs, decomposition, and the importance of protecting our environment. Reading skills include: *sequencing, main idea & details, making inferences, and fact & opinion.*

## Writing

We will continue to explore **expository writing** this month. Students will be writing to inform others about a place that is important or special to them. We will learn how to write *effective introductions*, include *details* using detail-generating questions, and compose *powerful conclusions*.

We will also continue our study of grammar, usage, and mechanics, focusing on *simple sentences, types of sentences, compound subjects & predicates, conjunctions, run-on sentences, and fragments*, as well as various spelling pattern rules.

## Social Studies

In Texas we are fortunate to have a variety of regions—from the mountains in the west to the plains in the east. In October, we will continue our study of Texas history and culture, focusing largely on the geographic regions of Texas.

## Homework

- Read 20 minutes each night. Write 1 book journal letter each week on a book you read this week. Instructions are in your homework spiral and are at our class website: [www.fourthgraderock.weebly.com](http://www.fourthgraderock.weebly.com).
- Write 1 P-O-W paragraph each week. The topic is provided to the students on Monday of each week. Students are expected to write a paragraph on the topic throughout the week, edit and revise their writing, and publish it. Again, instructions can be found at our class website.

## Keep In Contact

- **Phone:** 512-759-5430
- **Email:** [erin.maness@huttoisd.net](mailto:erin.maness@huttoisd.net)
- **Remind Text:** Text the message @maness1 to the number 81010 to subscribe to text messages

## Mark Your Calendars: Upcoming Events

- October 6<sup>th</sup>—Family Open Gym Night from 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- October 9<sup>th</sup>—Big Kahuna Fundraising Orders are due
- October 12<sup>th</sup>—Student Holiday/Teacher Workday; Parent Conferences
- October 16<sup>th</sup>—End of the first grading period
- October 17<sup>th</sup>—Old Tyme Days Celebration in Downtown Hutto
- October 20<sup>th</sup>—Picture Re-takes
- October 23<sup>rd</sup>—Report Cards Go Home
- October 26<sup>th</sup>—Red Ribbon Week and Scholastic Book Fair runs through the 30<sup>th</sup>
- October 27<sup>th</sup>—McTeacher Night at McDonalds from 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- October 29<sup>th</sup>—Extended Book Fair Hours and Family Open Gym Night from 6:15-7:30 p.m.