

YOUNG SCHOLARS NEWSLETTER

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Essential Questions/Skills:

*How can we use patterns for intentional purposes?
How can we learn from patterns?*

Humanities

acquiring new vocabulary
using appropriate level of detail
using evidence and inference to form opinion/argument

Math/Science (Howe)

applying mathematical frequency to design
using graphic organizers
using a matrix for advanced logic problems

Content

texts: "The Noble Bachelor" by Arthur Conan Doyle
"The Red-Headed League" by Arthur Conan Doyle
"The Five Orange Pips" by Arthur Conan Doyle
"The Pied Piper of Hamelin" by Robert Browning

science websites related to students' game topics
advanced logic problems
construction of topic-based game elements

board game thematic annotation
Internet research
vocabulary narratives
mock trial
persuasive writing dimension: Organization/Coherence

Internet research
argument incorporating relevant math/science

Materials & Supplies: teacher-created materials, student-created materials, standard classroom supplies

Assessment of Student Progress: Young Scholars Persuasive Writing Rubric, formative assessments

Standards (State, Local, 21st Century Skills): NY ELA Standards 1, 2; NY Math/Science Standards 1, 2;
critical thinking, problem identification/solution, working in flexible groups

Notable Dates:

March 14: Daylight Savings Time begins

March 16: No 5th grade Young Scholars at Burnt Hills; ½ day for all Burnt Hills students (afternoon conferences)

News:

Even if March brings us snow and winds, all are aware that winter will be departing; so we can dare to dream ahead! However, engaged Young Scholars are focused *indoors* on refining their board games, and some students will soon reach the test play stage. The work is intricate and exacting, and every elaborated design element relates to a topic or theme. Similarly, the literature we will examine this month includes a set of mysteries, each a carefully woven tapestry of related details. The literature-based mock trials will require the use of evidence and inference to construct a case for the prosecution or the defense. Students' work solving advanced logic problems will sharpen their ability to make associations and construct sequences, both important elements of argument (and mock trials). As you can tell, March is fully loaded with pursuits that work together under the year's umbrella theme of Patterns. Be sure to ask your Young Scholars about these activities.

Before we know it, when we stop to look up and happen to glance out the window, we might even see a robin.

Please, as always, feel free to contact me at the office phone number above or email me at the WSWHE BOCES email address. This newsletter, and one every month, will be available at www.wswebooces.org. Go to School Support Services, Gifted and Talented Programs, Young Scholars Newsletters, then to each teacher's name.