

Hello again, Grade 8s! **Week Four** of Learning Continues!

Feel free to contact me @[SarahSadlerMean@nbed.nb.ca](mailto:SarahSadlerMean@nbed.nb.ca)

Or call the school @ 278-6000

This week's suggested learning activities include the following, but feel free to click on any other teacher at <http://web1.nbed.nb.ca/sites/ASD-W/bms/Pages/default.aspx> for a variety of activities that may suit your child's needs or interests. Just click "weekly learning plans" and you're all set! Also remember to check out Mr. Williams' suggested physical education activities on the site as well.

Note to Parents: **Free lunches** will be available from the *Diner Down Under* at 12:30 daily for those in need until further notice.

Also, don't forget to enter your child in the **draw for a free bike** thanks to a partnership with Thomas Equipment and BCS! Submit a story or picture of how you are maintaining a positive mindset while remaining physically fit! Email your submissions to [BathCommunity@nbed.nb.ca](mailto:BathCommunity@nbed.nb.ca), or drop your submission in the mail.

**Literacy:** Choose any three of the following prompts and write for twenty minutes a piece. Be sure to edit your own writing checking for M.I.N.T.S - capitals with months, the letter "I," names of people places and things, titles, and the start of sentences. Also remember to use interesting words and not to use the same word(s) over and over:

- What would happen if everyone wore the same clothes?
- What would happen if you threw a piece of trash on the ground? What if everyone did?
- What if you could walk up walls and across ceilings?

- What would happen if you loved your neighbour as yourself? What if everyone did?
- What would happen if you grew taller than trees? How would this change your life?
- What would happen if children ruled the world?
- What would happen if there were no cars, buses, trains, boats, or planes? How would this change your life?

Respond to the following quote in half a page or more:

*"An optimist is the human personification of spring."* -- Susan J. Bissonette

**Note:** I can monitor student reading on EPIC! So far, I only see two students (Thomas and Carlee) using the program, but I added all the parent emails that I had. If you're not able to access the program, or if you want me to use your child's email instead so that they can access it on their own Ipads and devices, just let me know! Happy reading! And don't forget to aim for **30 minutes daily** if possible. Hard-copy books are totally acceptable as well!

I'd also love to see what they are writing so that I can offer feedback! Two students have also sent me writing via email. You can use the prompts provided or simply any prompt or style: journaling, short stories, narratives, how-to pieces, essays, etc. The choices are endless!

**Science:** *Topic - Plants and the Environment*

Green **chlorophyll** is the most common type of pigment (colour), but there are others as well: reds, yellows, and orange.

Chlorophyll, which is essential for **photosynthesis**, usually hides the other pigments, except when autumn comes along and it begins to break down.

Therefore, leaves turn different colours in the fall. Do this project to see the hidden colours in a new green leaf and predict what color it will be in the fall, or else find some old leaves from last autumn to see if any green remains!

(Adult supervision recommended.)

What You Need:

- Green leaves from several different trees (Trees with a dramatic color change, like maples, work best)
- Beaker or drinking glass
- Isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol
- Plastic wrap
- Chromatography or filter paper (you can use coffee filters)
- Pens or Pencils

What You Do:

Keep leaves from different trees separate and follow the steps below for each set of leaves, so you can compare results.

1. Tear the leaves into several pieces and place them in a beaker or glass, then add just enough rubbing alcohol to cover them. Cover the beaker with plastic wrap to keep the alcohol from evaporating.
2. Put the beaker in a dish of hot tap water for about 30 minutes, until the alcohol turns green as the pigments from the leaves are absorbed into it.
3. Cut a strip of filter paper about a half inch wide and tape it to a pencil. Suspend the pencil across the beaker and let the strip just barely touch the alcohol and pigment mixture.

What Happened:

A bit of the mixture will travel slowly up the paper.

After about 30-90 minutes you should be able to see the "green" color break up into several different colors as the different pigments begin to separate.

You'll see different shades of green, and perhaps other colors as well. Which leaves had the most colourful pigments?

What you have made is a chromatograph! "Chrome" means colour, and "graph" means a visual diagram. Good job!

**Social Studies** -- A **monoculture** is when a single crop is grown in a large area, such as ten acres of potatoes. This is very common in modern agriculture as it allows farmers to harvest large amounts of one thing (potatoes, for instance) using the same chemicals and farm equipment. Monocultures create some environmental problems, however: It is easier for pests and diseases to spread in a monoculture than when crop rotation is used. Growing the same crop also puts a strain on the soil, which may need to be fertilized to support a monoculture crop each rotation.



To Do: Brainstorm some possible pros and cons of monoculture cropping! See if you can come up with four or more points for each side. If you personally know a farmer, feel free to ask them to help you with your chart! Some cons were listed above.

Pros	Cons

What do you think the article means by "crop rotation?" What might be one drawback for farmers using a crop rotation method in order to sustain monoculture crops? (See the *Did You Know* section for one answer).

Watch this video clip for more information and see if you can anything more to your brainstorming or to your understanding of crop rotation. Did the video confirm or contradict your understanding of this practice?

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VH\\_wt8xBrm4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VH_wt8xBrm4)

***Did You Know??***

***Did you know that the most common crop in the world is wheat?***

Wheat provides 20% of the daily protein and food calories for 4.5 billion people.

***Did you know that for every acre of potatoes grown, farmers need four times that amount to allow for crop rotating?*** The need to allow fields to "fallow" or to grow wild for a year, and then to be planted with several other species of crops before potatoes is a four-year cycle. Therefore, modern monoculture crop farmers need tremendous amounts of land.

***Did you know that grass is known as the ultimate survivor in the plant world?*** It can grow on half a millimeter of soil and returns mere days after a fire! Grass is amazing!

**Numeracy:** Have fun with this **Algebraic Puzzle** and continue to work from the pages of this suggested on-line workbook that can also be printed off if possible:

<http://www.mathematicshed.com/uploads/1/2/5/7/12572836/decimalwordprobsgood.pdf>













Flashcards and quizzes can also be accessed at

<https://quizlet.com/subject/math-connects-course/>













## Algebra Puzzle

Find the value of each picture.

1 The numbers given are the sum of the picture in each row or column.

			12		=
			26		=
			21		=
22	17	20			

2

			14		=
			17		=
			11		=
6	27	9			

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### Mental Health and Wellness: borrowed from *Well-Doing.Org*

Seasonal changes, especially the "winter blues" may be a worry for some because they can trigger changes not only in mood, but also in energy levels, sleeping, eating, and social and sexual behavior.

But as soon as we get a prolonged access to daylight, fresh air outdoors and time with family and friends, we feel the benefits. So take time out to admire the greenery and colours around you and experience the instant relaxation of your stressed mind. It's the season to feel fabulous and healthy. Spring into good health as you enjoy the season with festivities, fun and frolics.





Stay safe, get outside, read and have fun! Love, Ms. Sadler Mean :D