

Mr. Smith's

Third Grade Rockstars!

11.01.21

How's it Going?

Are you on the right track?

I trust that you all had a lovely weekend. For those of you that celebrated the holiday, I hope you were all safe and enjoyed the festivities. I am back today after a day with my family.

Students should be around 57% complete with semester courses and 28% complete with year-long courses. Even for those of you that joined late- this is where you need to aim your Lesson completion to be.

Throughout this year, you will want to keep in close communication with me often. In fact, this is a requirement! I've found that if you utilize my booking page, you can schedule out ALL the required meetings right now and have that out of the way. Here are the ways:

- WebMail
- Phone: 208-370-3628 (text or call)
- [YouCanBook.Me](https://www.youcanbook.me)

Connecting with me for monthly check-ins are a required part of attending Connections Academy. Please do not fall behind on these or my unsolicited phone calls will begin. No one likes those!

Monthly check-ins are a required part of your participation with our school. It is your duty to schedule those with me. If you do not do so and do not answer or return my calls, I will be placing mandatory check-in appointments on the student Planner along with a WebMail to inform you of the scheduled appointment. These check-ins are quite short if you are current on them, so please keep up with those!

“Why fit in when you were born to stand out?”
– Dr. Suess



Social Hour and Art LLs

I keep a major focus on the Social and Emotional Growth and well-being of every student. This is why creating opportunities for students to be seen and heard has remained a focal point to my teaching practices. Spirit Week supplemented that last week, but we will be back on schedule for this week.

However, I would like to hear from YOU... what types of activities/ fun/ art would YOU like to experience in Social Hour and Art LiveLessons?! Please take a moment in your business to drop me a WebMail and give me some suggestions that interest YOU.

LiveLesson Schedule and Assessments

LiveLesson Schedule

Social Hour and Art LiveLessons are BACK this week! I hope to see a great turnout for those after several weeks of supplemental activities.

Monday: Mr. Smith OUT

Tuesday: Language Arts: Poetic Devices 9am PT / 10am MT, Math: Inequalities 10:30am PT / 11:30am MT

Wednesday: Time to Talk 8am PT / 9am MT, Time to Talk 9:30am PT / 10:30am MT, Social Hour: Magic Time! 10:30am PT / 11:30am MT, Time to Talk 12pm PT / 1pm MT

Thursday: Time to Talk 8am PT / 9am MT, GT Language Arts: Theater Read 9:30am PT / 10:30am MT, Science: Punnett Squares 10:30am PT / 11:30am MT, Time to Talk 12pm PT / 1pm MT

Friday: Art: Winter Landscape 10am PT / 11am MT (2 shades of blue, 2 shades of green, brown marker/crayon/pencil, No Open Office

Important takeaways:

- **Check your Time to Talk grades... are you on track to having 10 this semester? If not, student WILL need to retake 1st semester**
- Don't forget to take a moment and let me know in a WebMail what YOU would like to experience in Social Hour and Art!
- Get your monthly check-ins scheduled!!!
- Many of you don't seem to be checking your WebMails regularly for important information from me. Please be sure you are checking these communications regularly!



Secrets of Success

- **Complete your Orientations**—Students and Learning Coaches
 - o *The Best Kept Secrets* are in these presentations. Refer back to them often the first month of school...and any other time during the year. (You can find them in the Virtual Library or in Learning Coach Central.)
- **Set up your study area**—Make it a special place where you do only school work. If a separate space is not possible, arrange your schedule so the space is only used for school during specific times of the day.
- **Daily attendance**—Consistency is important in learning.
- **Begin the first day of school or the day you have access to lessons**—if you have enrolled later—begin even if you do not have all of the books and materials! You have copies of the books online through the links in your lessons. If you get behind, it is hard to catch up. All workbook pages are available as PDFs.
- **Do all your assignments in order.** Complete Portfolios before going on to the next Unit. Don't put off portfolios! Portfolios are intended to take multiple days with instructions for different parts given throughout a unit. Do each part as you are instructed to do so.
- **Decide how you are going to use your Student Planner.** Learning Coaches can enter family outings and appointments and other events that will affect your schooling—monthly calls and LiveLessons.
- **Be available for required monthly phone calls.** You can schedule a set time or you can use You Can Book Me to find the best time for you!
- **Attend scheduled LiveLessons.**
- **Mark the STATE TESTING Dates on your Family Calendar when made available.** ISAT testing will happen in the spring. You will receive more information on this later.
- **ASK QUESTIONS!** If you are new to INSPIRE—it takes a few weeks to get adjusted to this new way of learning. If you are a returning family, it will take some time to adjust to the new curriculum and get back into your school routine. If you have questions—ask. If I don't know the answer, I will find out who does.
- **Clear curriculum modifications with your teacher.** Some families may need to have the curriculum modified for various reasons. Please work with me so that your student continues to meet Idaho Standards while meeting his/her unique needs.
- **School Support/Tech Support—800-382-6010.** You can always call Connections Academy with questions—especially if they are computer or equipment related. I will direct you to these numbers if you are having issues with the materials CA sent.