



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Scholastic News is an opportunity for your child to practice reading skills, specifically the kinds of skills needed when “reading for information.” These skills are somewhat different than those needed for reading a novel.

Students will have **one week to complete** the *Scholastic News* assignment. Usually they are handed out on Friday and due the next Friday. A checklist is handed out with the magazine each week. This checklist shows requirement that needs to be completed that week. (See the back of this page for an example of the checklist.)

How can you help? Students are asked to go over each issue and the related worksheets **with an adult** before handing them in. The adult who is checking the work over should see if they agree with the student’s answers. The adult may ask the child to go back into the reading and find the evidence (proof) for why an answer was chosen. This discourages kids from just guessing and gives them valuable practice with citing evidence from the text, which they are also practicing in ELA class!

Discuss the questions your child had trouble on and come to an understanding of which answer is probably best. **Ask your child to change any mistakes made so that he/she is showing the new understanding gained after discussion with an adult.** This demonstrates learning...as long as the child has had the discussion needed in order to understand.

If students need teacher support, please suggest staying after school on Tuesdays or Thursdays with the teacher. Periodically throughout the year, students will do an issue in the classroom, upon demand, in order to demonstrate how they are progressing with these skills, *without* any adult intervention.

We encourage and have modeled going through the **checklist**, one item at a time, to be sure all items have been done and the assignment is complete. Paying attention to the details will allow your student to earn all of the possible points each time. You can look in Jupiter Grades to see your child’s progress in developing “reading for information” skills as the year gets underway!

How the *Scholastic News* Issue is Scored

One point for your name AND one point for your class block#. For example: Jane Doe B2 (*That’s an easy two points!*)

One point for each correct answer on the back of the issue.

One point for each correct place that you are asked to highlight. (*Your checklist will tell you which ones!*)

One point for each question number that you write next to a highlighted area.
(*This helps us to know which question matches up to which highlighted pieces of evidence.*)

Two points for reading aloud to an adult and having them sign your checklist.

One extra credit point for doing the challenge at the bottom of the checklist.

JUNO Check-up: Students are required to do a quick check up of their accuracy by entering their answers into an online quiz application called JUNO. If they do not score a perfect score, students should go back to the issue and keep working, re-read, look for the mistakes, and make changes where needed to their paper copy of the Scholastic News. Parents are encouraged to help with this investigation by discussing the questions and answers and pointing out where closer reading is required. The paper copy is the graded work...so help your child change things that are incorrect!

They were given a chance to do a sample JUNO Check-up in class. If you have any questions on how to access JUNO at home, please call your teacher or email. Each week we will award 5 pts. for doing the JUNO Check-up regardless of the score earned. Your child will earn 5 points each week just for doing the Check-up.

Thank you for your support at home! Please check your child’s work each week on Scholastic News!

Ms. Dill & Mrs. Zotos

Name _____

DUE: Friday, September 29

Check off things that are **DONE**.

Title of SN issue: **“Good News For Grizzlies?”**

Checklist for completing the *Scholastic News* this week:

_____ I read all of the articles in the magazine.

_____ I answered all of the questions on the back of the magazine.

_____ I highlighted the evidence in the text for the answers to these questions:

_____ **From the Back of the Issue: #6 and #9**

_____ I numbered the highlighted spots in pen or pencil. (NOT in highlighter)

_____ I completed the JUNO version of this assignment, looking at my score to see if I made any errors. I, hopefully, found my mistakes and made corrections before handing in my final work.

_____ I read the following **article** aloud to an adult: **“Fossil Finder”**

_____ **I got a signature to confirm that I read the article aloud.**

Help your child become a better, more fluent reader by listening to her or him read aloud. Point out places where pauses should be made and correct mispronunciations. Encourage the use of expression in his/her voice while reading.

*******Adult Signature Confirming That I Read Aloud:**

_____ (2 pts.)

“**Reading fluency** is the ability to read text accurately, automatically and with appropriate expression.”

For one extra credit point, write your own sentence(s) using any one of the “Words to Know” in this issue. Be sure the context clues in your sentence(s) show that you are clear on the meaning of the vocabulary word you choose. You must spell the “Word to Know” correctly.

Comments: (In the space below, parents/guardians/students may comment on successes, challenges, observations, or anything related to doing *Scholastic News*.)