



# News From Borlaug Fourth Grade

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Dear Family,  
Our students did an amazing job on Iowa Assessments two weeks ago! We, as teachers, did not know what to expect, so the students' focus and attention to detail was much appreciated. There will be a number of end of year assessments over the next month, including our End-of-Year Math Test. Your child will benefit from keeping similar routines this month, including sleep.

## Curriculum Updates

### Language Arts:

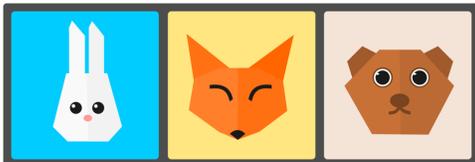
Our last Reading unit of the year is called "Paths to Discovery." The big idea is "Exploration leads people to discovery." The first story, "The Girl Who Loved Spiders," is about a boy learning to overcome his fears with the help of a new friend. We will work on the skill of story structure.

Please encourage your child to continue filling out his or her HRA reading log and studying spelling words.

### Math:

The students have begun working on geometry concepts in Topics 15 and 16. Topic 15 discusses lines, rays, and angles, including measuring angles. Topic 16 discusses polygons and lines of symmetry. We will go back to Topic 13 after we complete these topics. Please continue to check with your child about if he or she has math homework.

At the end of the school year, we will go over our "Step Up to Fifth Grade" lessons that introduce some of the concepts the students will learn next year, focusing mainly on decimals and fractions.



## Dates to Remember

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|-----------------|--|
| <b>April 30</b> | Herbert Hoover Museum Field Trip (9 am-2:30 pm)                      |
| <b>May 4</b>    | Cedar Rapids Kernels game<br>Borlaug Night (6:30 pm)                 |
| <b>May 7</b>    | PTO Meeting (6:30 pm)  |
| <b>May 15</b>   | Borlaug Art Show (3-6 pm)<br>Borlaug Book Fair (3-6 pm)              |
| <b>May 16</b>   | Borlaug Book Fair (2-6 pm)<br>Grades 4-6 Spring Concert<br>(9:15 am) |

### Science:

We have started our new science unit, "Environments." In it, we will be discussing what organisms need to survive in their habitat. We started by observing mealworms, which aren't worms at all, but beetle larvae. We have moved on to discuss pill bugs and sow bugs. We also are observing goldfish and guppies. There are some "active" afternoons in fourth grade!

### Social Studies:

We are preparing in Social Studies for our trip to the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library next Tuesday, learning about his life and the time period in which he was president. We have been discussing the West region of the United States and will also learn about how the United States government is organized.