Respecting Educational Alternatives and Choices in Homeschooling

Hello REACH families!

Winter seems to be knocking on Sitka's door with the cold, windy days we've been enjoying—

This school year is moving so quickly and the REACH community has truly weathered the transition of new staff members and adjustments to me being in this temporary position with ease. Thank you, families, for the warm welcome and enthusiasm for trying new ideas. Jamie will be taking the reins after January, she is anxious to help you continue your homeschooling journey.

Even though the days are short and dark, we are not slowing down. Read on to see what REACH has in store for the new year. I hope you'll feel inspired (or recharged, if these dark days are wearing on you).

Warm regards,

Connie McCarty
REACH Coordinator

GRAB and GO Holiday Activity Boxes for Grades K-5. Call to pick up (we can run them out to you) or stop by.

DATES TO REMEMBER ————

- December 14 PROGRESS REPORTS #2 with work samples due for all grades. You may begin turning things in Dec. 10.
- REIMBURSEMENTS— We recommend you turn in all 1st semester reimbursement paperwork by December 16.
- NO SCHOOL—December 20th — January 4th
- Inservice Days— January 3rd and 4th
- REACH Office Open January 5th

Refer to the REACH Policies and Procedures Handbook for more specific information regarding program requirements and procedures

CONTACT INFORMATION

The REACH office is located at Baranof Elementary School, Room 30 907.747.7514

REACH Coordinator
Connie McCarty 907.966.1330 mccartyes@sitkaschools.org
Hours: 8:00 - 3:30pm (M - F)
Jamie Eells returns to REACH January 31, 2022 eellsj@sitkaschools.org

REACH High School Liaison
Beau Hedrick / 907.966.1939 hedrickb@sitkaschools.org

REACH Secretary
Fonda Penny 966.1338

REACH Website
www.sitkaschools.org
KHAN ACADEMY

The REACH Team fields quite a few questions about where to find great learning resources, especially for math. Well, Khan Academy is THE resource that is both user friendly and resource rich.

It’s also completely free! But it doesn’t just have math resources. Khan Academy has math by grade, science & engineering, arts & humanities, computing, economics & finance, and test prep.

Parents and teachers can actually build their own classroom and choose which lessons, exercises, and tests to include.

It’s a user-friendly platform, but the REACH Coordinator can help if needed.

Visit www.khanacademy.org

"You can learn anything. For free. For everyone. Forever."

How to check the REACH Lending Library for a specific resource.

1. Log into the REACH Website:
   REACH Program / Homepage (sikaschools.org)

2. Choose the HERE Button in the Lending Library paragraph. (Bookmark this site for later use.)

3. In the search bar type in the name of the resource, Ex. Singapore Math or subject: Science

4. Click the Reserve This Button and list your name and submit.

5. We will pull these items and contact you when they are ready for pick up.

6. We are happy to do curbside handoff. Just call when you are in the loading zone and we will meet you out front.

OLD-SCHOOL RESOURCE: UPDATED TWIST

Geo Boards

Who doesn’t love geometric shapes! After all, our kids are already developing ideas about spatial representation because shapes are all around us.

What is wonderful about a geo board is that kids can use a manipulative to work with geometric shapes and be creative at the same time.

The REACH Lending Library has geo boards and rubber bands. There’s even an app! Simple, yet effective, this geo board app mimics the classic geo board and rubber band set up (without the temptation of flinging that rubber band across the room!).

https://apps.mathlearningcenter.org/geoboard/
COMING YOUR WAY

Beginning mid November REACH began sending along some supplemental activities for families. These may be modified for your situation, but will be most appropriate for K-8 graders. Watch for more to be sent by email.

Grab and Go

Families with students grades K-5 are invited to swing by and pick up a grab and go Holiday Box. These are ready to go activities for your child. We just need to know their grade level when you call and we can meet you at the curb and hand off this fun filled box. We hope this is an activity that your child will enjoy during this season!

RESOURCES

POETS.ORG
Poem-a-day and Teach this Poem
https://www.poets.org/poetsorg/poems-kids
This website is a vast resource for all things poetry. You can sign up to be sent a daily poem with accompanying teaching resources—all free! You can also browse children's poetry by categories such as friendship, immigration, Native American heritage month, social justice, technology, and more! National Poetry Month isn't until April, but poetry can be appreciated all year long.

CRAFT Lessons
Teaching Writing K-8
A writing resource that can be used as a complete curriculum for informational and creative writing, or individual writing activities. Activities are brief, accessible, and completely adaptable to any ability level. Available for check-out in the Lending Library!

If you have a resource that other REACH families should know about, let the REACH Office know and we'll feature it in the newsletter!
LOCAL LIBRARY RESOURCES

Do you have a love-hate relationship with the internet because there is just SO much to sift through? (I do!)

I know that our families who homeschool like to work smarter, not harder. Let the Sitka Public Library do the heavy lifting!

The Sitka Public Library website has access to digital books, school resources, Alaska-specific archives, tutoring and so much more.

Search www.cityofsitka.com/government/departments/library/

ASK ABOUT . . .

The Amelia Bloomer Project

A booklist of notable feminist literature for people from birth to age eighteen

SO MANY RESOURCES!

SLED
STATEWIDE LIBRARY ELECTRONIC DOORWAY
INFORMATION RESOURCES FOR, ABOUT, AND BY ALASKANS