

Project Week

Archway Glendale
Third Grade

Dear Third Grade Parents,

The week of October 2nd to 6th, 2023 is Project Week. While we will be having conferences with you throughout the week, the students will be working on an assignment. They are to study and memorize at home a poem that we have discussed in class. This year, the project week poem is "The Village Blacksmith" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. While the task may seem daunting, we have every confidence that your student will be able to rise to the challenge.

Below are some suggestions and guidelines that should assist you in this process and enable you to successfully complete the assignment and be able to recite it with confidence. The assignment is expected to be done over project week, but there is nothing to stop those who want to, from doing it over the course of the entire break. We would suggest that you choose one of the following two approaches to memorizing the poem. **Students will recite the entire poem from memory and bring their copywork and beautiful illustration to turn in at school on Monday, October 16, 2023.**

Option One:

Study the poem, including completing the copy work and illustration over the course of the entire break. There are eight stanzas in total. We have already studied and memorized the first five stanzas. The remaining three stanzas would need to be memorized over the break along with completing the copywork for the stanzas and creating a beautiful, detailed picture.

Option Two:

Take a week off; study the poem over just project week. This would require memorizing about one stanza per day while also completing the copywork and amazing illustration.

Memorization Tips:

- After reading over the sections several times, write out the first letter of each word in the stanza on a note card. Then try to recite the section using only those first letters as a guide.
- Practice the poem with a partner, "ping-ponging" back and forth, each person saying every other word. Progress to saying every other line.
- Read the poem three separate times a day.

Copywork and Illustration Expectations

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Your students have each been given a folder with a booklet for their copywork and illustration of "The Village Blacksmith".

- Your students will copy, in their best Spalding cursive, with correct spelling and punctuation one stanza per page.
- Each line of poetry should be written on a new line. If your student needs to continue writing a single line of poetry on a second line, they should drop down to the next line and indent before finishing that line of poetry. They will then drop down another line and begin the next line of poetry at the margin once again.
- They will then create **one** neat, very detailed, colorful illustration to represent the poem. The entire page should be colored. The illustration should be thoughtful and reflect the time and effort they have spent. For the illustration, please use twistables, colored pencils or crayons. Please no pens or markers. Please do your best work! The picture is worth 12 points total.

Your student's teacher will be available through email over Project Week. Should you have any questions about the Project Week poem or any of the project expectations, please email your student's teacher. We look forward to hearing their expressive interpretations of this beautiful poem!

We hope you have a wonderful fall break!

The Third Grade Team