

# Things I covered at Back to School Night

## About Me



My wife and I have two wonderful rowdy boys. Ethan is 6 and Nick is 4. We have a german shepherd named Duke and a Shih tzu named Rusty.



- Chico State  
Liberal Studies  
Minor In Biology  
- University of Redlands  
Teaching credential - Multiple subject  
Masters degree - Education



Yucaipa  
- 6th grade for one year  
- 2nd grade for four years  
North Sacramento  
- 2nd Grade for one year  
Roseville  
- 4th for one year  
- 5th for three years

This will be my 11th year teaching.

## 4th and 5th Expectations

This is a combo class and each student will be expected to demonstrate understanding in all grade level standards. Students must be responsible, honest, and organized. If a student needs help with any of those things, I will help them. All students must use a binder to keep their papers organized.

## Books we will read this year:

4th - *My Side of the Mountain*, *Frindle*, *Holes*, *Old Yeller*, *The Trumpet of the Swan*

5th - *Bridge to Terabithia*, *Tuck Everlasting*, *Sign of the Beaver*, *Johnny Tremain*, *Hatchet*

Homework is:

- done by the student
- brought back on time
- neat
- attempted
- important

Homework isn't:

- done by the parent
- something to keep kids busy with
- 50 of the same problem
- always done (if a student struggles at home, please have them bring it into class. I do not want students battling parents at home)

Homework Includes:

- 30 minutes of reading nightly
- Must Do and May Do (Must Do assignments are a necessary part of cementing the daily lessons, usually in math. The May Do assignments are optional, and can be done to extend your child's learning.)
- Special projects/long term assignments
- "Independent Study" for unavoidable time away from school (5 or more days) Please notify me at least 3 days in advance

Except for long term projects, homework is assigned Monday through Thursday. Daily homework is intended to take no more than 50 to 60 minutes. Students need to be sure to use the time given in class to work on assignments or projects effectively to ensure the 50/60 minute homework time.

## Discipline



My philosophy on “Behavior Management” is to help the children understand and internalize the importance of being kind, caring, respectful, and responsible citizens.

I believe that children learn by example and I am constantly aware of my actions and tone.

**An effective classroom provides an environment free of humiliation and fear.**

I make every effort to talk with the student one on one in order to use discipline as a form of education. I feel that people learn a great deal from their mistakes.

For students who are not yet intrinsically motivated to behave respectfully and responsibly, they can earn incentives that act as extrinsic reward for positive behavior and provide the necessary support toward developing the necessary intrinsic value.

At our school we have a school wide program to help recognize good behavior. The program teaches students how they should behave in all areas of the school. When a student displays this behavior they earn a blue slip that can earn them a classroom prize or a school reward. Each week three students are chosen from the class bucket and at the end of each month two students from each class receive a reward in main office.

## Spelling and Vocabulary

1 2 3 4

Word	Meaning	Examples
<b>authentic</b> au·then·tic adjective	Casual: real not fake	Formal: genuine
VS. <b>pseudo</b> pseu·do adjective	Casual: fake	Formal: false or a sham
		~ Authentic Uggs are made in Australia.
		~ You can buy pseudo Uggs at Target.

Oral Practice: "The bride wore \_\_\_\_\_ pearls at her wedding."

"Santa gave my daughter \_\_\_\_\_ Uggs from Target."

Our spelling and vocabulary tests will be every two weeks. Each list is based on Marzano's academic language. We also include words we see students struggling with. Each word is taught in a format like this. The words can be found on the website for each test.

### Website

I update the website frequently. Students can drop files for presentations or to be printed in my computer along with many other things. The calendar is updated with homework and classroom activities and events. I try to put anything that might be helpful to help you plan.

### Field Trips

4th Grade - Gold Bug Mine, and a visit from Roseville Rock Rollers, and a possible trip to downtown Sacramento

5th - Alliance Redwoods, Discovery Museum, Buljan Step Up Day

## TECHNOLOGY

### Things I will be doing this year with students:

-video conferencing with professionals when it applies to areas we are studying



- if you know someone that would like to do this to support student learning, I would love to talk to them

-using the various types of technology to reinforce and excite students to **learn and explore**

-posting and sharing student projects and presentations

- assessing students with the Smart Response system to provide immediate feedback on homework and tests in a way that does not embarrass anyone

-teaching about behavior and safety on the Internet

Things students will be doing:



- Learning how to organize and transfer files

- iMovie

- Web sites

- iBook

- Word and Excel

-apps on iPad to support learning

- Exploring new technology and applying it to their learning

Please let me know if you have any questions. I did my best to cover everything that was brought up or asked about in class. I will be adding a list of iPad apps for kids on the website. I will also be sending home two permission slips. One will be to include student photos on the website. These will only be taken on the field trips and they will be on a password protected page. The other will be for student work. I will need a permission slip to post student work that might include voice (example would be an iMovie project using student work).