

Welcome to Passport Club 2016-2017

Where students get excited about geography and we provide them with accurate and interesting study maps that keep pace with our ever-changing world.

Dear Parents:

The two basic goals of Passport Club are:

1. To learn the location of some of the world's countries, as well as other major geographic locations such as continents and oceans.
2. To introduce the collection of passport stamps as a valuable, educational activity that can make countries "come alive" for the students.

This program is not required but highly recommended and supported by teachers. It is a home based program, providing parents a chance to work with their child at home.

How Passport Club works:

Passports are issued to students grades 1 – 5 at the start of the program in October. Passport books are kept with the teachers until Passport Check Day at the end of each month. They are also given a map of the countries they will study each month. At Passport Check Day, 5th graders and parent volunteers will ask students to locate on a large map the countries they have studied that month. If the student correctly locates these countries on the map, they will receive a stamp in their passport book. The number of stamps a student receives is the same number of levels the student has passed. For example, a student passing level four would then receive four stamps in their passport book. At the end of the year, students receive rewards based on the levels passed.

Teaching Tools:

Monthly Study Maps: Each month, study maps will be handed out to the students to study for the following month. Each grade is given a different map to study. The geographical locations are identified on the map and a pronunciation guide is included on the back of the study map. If you believe that your child needs to be challenged, we can provide a higher level study map. Please contact Anne or Cheryl and we will provide the extra map to the teacher for them to bring home.

Parents – How you can participate:

1. We provide an extra map that has continents and oceans, please have your child study this prior to working on their October study map.
2. Post monthly the study map in a prominent place in your home so your child is reminded to study. You can also hang a large world wall map in your child's bedroom.
3. Set aside ten minutes twice a week to have your child study.
4. When your child thinks they know the locations, act as a checker and have them identify the countries for you.
5. Celebrate one country a month by learning about the language, food, music, art, etc.
6. Please mark the following dates of Passport Check Day on your calendar:

Month to be Checked

September/October

November

December

January

February

March

April

May

Check Date

Friday, October 28, 2016

Friday, December 2, 2016

Friday, January 6, 2017

Friday, January 27, 2017

Friday, March 3, 2017

Friday, March 31, 2017

Friday, April 28, 2017

May 26, 2017

Passport Rewards:

There are eight Passport Check Days in a year. Each time a student passes their level 100%, they will receive a check for the month. Each month they have passed represents a red ticket that we pass out at the end of the year. If students pass at higher levels, they receive two tickets for that month. During the last Passport Check Day of the year we total up the number of passed levels and provide students with their tickets that they will use as money to purchase fun rewards in June. The more tickets they have, the more rewards they can purchase. First graders all receive the same passport prize in June. Every student will receive a reward for participating at the end of the year. **Passport Reward Day will be June 9th.**

If you have any questions, please contact Anne Temme @ akaumakua@aol.com or 206.255.7683, Cheryl Lee at cballiett@aol.com or Vicky Piston at bytheh2o@comcast.net.

We look forward to a super fun year of learning about geography!