

Wander to Wonder



Initiate an Investigation

W.I.L.D.

If you are going to tackle a challenge—or sometimes even manage a lazy afternoon—you need to begin with a **strategy**. Our class knows that a **strategy** is a **certain way of thinking** that provides us with a **plan for success**. Ask your child to show you how to play a game of NIM (You need 10 items to manipulate, be they pennies or plastic cups.) Once you discover the **strategy** you can be a winner every time. Be observant, parents, and press on with the challenge. Students, make them work for it!

Likewise, our class has adopted a **strategy for learning**. Each week we will take a walk on the **W.I.L.D.** side. My personal goal is for this strategy of thinking to become second nature for your students in every classroom, every day, no matter the challenge that comes their way. Education should not be “rearranging the chairs on the Titanic”; rather, “a rising tide to lift all boats.” (Yes, ask your kids about those **idioms**.) Let’s look at the **acronym**, WILD.

WONDER: We begin with wonder. Ask questions, **ponder**, and make connections to what you already know.

INVESTIGATE: Decide where and how you might find out more information. Then, do that! Record your information. Keep a journal, or make a list. Re-read and **relish** what you have found out so far.

LISTEN and LEARN: Who could you “talk” to about this? Who are the experts? What texts do you need to read? What feedback from others do you need to hear? How will you organize and share this information with others?

DISCOVER the DANCE: Now that you’ve learned something new, how does this work together—how does it shake hands with what you already know? *and* do? How will you apply this to you? What will you change or help others change because you have learned this?

BECAUSE...

Once you know, you’re responsible!

Listen and Learn

Discover the Dance!