



Big Flats News

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021

At Big Flats Elementary, we will SOAR together as we explore our "wonders" in a fun and engaging community, where we will inspire each other to achieve anything!

Dear Big Flats Parents and Guardians,

Happy New Year! I hope this message finds you and your family healthy and ready to embrace a new year. This past year has no doubt been very difficult for many of us. With the new year, I am hopeful that we will soon see relief from the COVID-19 pandemic with the pending vaccinations. I can assure you all that our students, teachers, staff, and I are very much looking forward to having this relief so that we can come closer to returning to our lives prior to COVID-19.

As we move through the new year, please read the following very important reminders.

Please continue to take the Stay Well survey via email each morning to ensure your child(ren) are healthy and meet the guidelines to attend school. If you are NOT receiving this email, PLEASE check your Junk email and call our office or email me if it's not there so we can inquire as to why you're NOT receiving the survey. Sometimes the system has occasional glitches.

If your family has traveled out of state, please be sure to let your child(ren)'s teacher know, as well as follow the Governor's executive order guidelines upon your return home.

If your child(ren) are not able to attend school, please email your child's teacher or call our main office to advise us of your child's absence. Our school nurse must call each child's parent to inquire about their absence, so advising us ahead of time would help us be more efficient with our daily procedures.

If you are having any technology issues or concerns, please let your child(ren)'s teacher know. We are here to assist and help as much as we can.

If your child is struggling socially and emotionally, please contact me and I will ensure that your child gets the support that they need.

Please be sure to continue to send your child(ren) to school with the appropriate winter weather items such as: coat, hat, boots, mittens, snow pants, etc. With the increased mask wearing due to the surge in COVID-19 cases, our teachers and staff look forward to going outside daily! All students go outside for recess, so please make sure that your child is prepared!

Lastly, please be sure that your child(ren) are prepared for their daily remote lessons. Students should be sitting up at a desk or table to ensure they are ready to learn. Please remind students to always be appropriate during their lessons. If your child misses a lesson, please be sure to have them go back and watch the recorded lesson(s) and complete the necessary assignments. If you have any questions on any assignments or how your child is doing, please contact your child's teacher.

In closing, please find attached a new updated cafeteria lunch menu. Please do not forget that our Cohort A students will be in school on Wednesday, January 20th, 2021, due to no school on Monday, January 18th. Also, Big Flats Elementary will have FULL DAYS of school on January 26th, 27th, and 29th while Center Street, Gardner Road, and Ridge Road Elementary schools have half days due to parent/teacher conferences. If anyone has any questions regarding these changes, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth M. Saptura

Elizabeth M. Saptura, Principal

Elementary Lunches (K-6)

School Food Services prices for the 2020-2021 school year will be:

Breakfast: \$1.25

Lunch: \$2.10

School Hours

Hours for the Elementary Schools are:
8:15 a.m. to 2:25 p.m.

Office Hours

Our school office hours during regular school days are:

Monday through Friday

7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Office Phone Numbers

(607) 739-6373

(607) 795-2550

Fax: (607) 795-2555

Student Materials/Packets

Pick-Ups & Drop-Offs

Thursday's and/or Friday's:

7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

2:45 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

• Valuable Items in School

Each year over Winter Recess, many of our students will receive gifts that they will treasure. To avoid the possibility of damage or loss of any valuable items, including electronics, we encourage students to leave those items at home. Please encourage your child to follow our suggestion so that we can avoid any unfortunate situations where items disappear or get broken. Thank you for your support!

• Recess

Students continue to go outside for recess during winter months. Please be sure that your child has a warm coat, hat, gloves/mittens, and boots so they can stay warm as they play. *Please remember that the nurse cannot provide boots for any student.

• Changes in Going Home Routine/Bus Notes

Please remember to write a 'blue note' with your child's change in dismissal plans if he/she will not be following their normal routine. Blue notes should also be written to explain your child's tardiness, absence, or plan to leave early. This is extremely important for the safety of our students.

• Lost and Found

Please remind your child(ren) to look in the lost and found bin if they are missing any items that belong to them. There are quite a few articles of clothing in our bin waiting for their owner to reclaim them!

Visions and Voices

Visions and Voices, Horseheads' district-wide publication of student work, is now accepting submissions.

Students and parents/guardians can submit student work including drawings, paintings, photography, sculpture photos, poetry, short stories, comics, etc.

Send to:

cbell@horseheadsdistrict.com

by March 5. Please include student's full name, school, and grade.

If you have questions, contact Mr. Bell at the address above.

View a video about Visions and Voices at this link: <https://youtu.be/zhIqpNOSfPs>.

Parents' Bill of Rights Relating to Student Data

The Horseheads Central School District, in compliance with Education Law 2-d, hereby establishes the following Parents' Bill of Rights in regard to student data:

1. A student's personally identifiable information will not be sold or released for any commercial purpose;
2. Parents have the right to inspect and review the complete contents of their child's educational record. Procedures for reviewing student records can be found in the Board Policy entitled 'Student Records,' Policy 5500, Regulation 5500-R;
3. Security protocols regarding confidentiality of personally identifiable information are currently in place and the safeguards necessary to protect the confidentiality of student data are maintained at industry standards and best practices. The safeguards include but are not limited to: encryptions, firewalls, and password protection.
4. New York State maintains a complete list of all student data collected by the State and the data is available for public review at www.nysed.gov, or by writing to: 89 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12234.
5. Parents have the right to have complaints about possible breaches of student data addressed. Complaints should be directed to the Superintendent of Schools, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845.

ATTENTION PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF 3RD AND 4TH GRADERS

To provide schools and parents with an assessment of student achievement, New York State has developed the New York State Testing Program. These standardized tests challenge all students in grades 3 through 8 to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. Please visit the site at <https://www.engageny.org/parent-and-family-resources>. If you are interested in viewing this site but do not have access to the Internet, please call the school office so that we can make arrangements for you to see this guide.

3rd and 4th grade ELA—April 20-21, 2021

3rd and 4th grade Math—May 4-5, 2021

4th grade Science Performance Test—May 25, 2021

4th grade Science Written Test—June 7, 2021

February—We are excited to share our continued collaboration with the Black Growth Council of Corning Incorporated to participate in the ***Black History Month Read-In Program***. The Mission of the Black History Month Read-In Program is to continue the celebration of African American literacy; a tradition of Black History Month. Corning Incorporated has purchased the books that will be read and added to each classroom library. We are excited to continue our partnership with Corning Incorporated and volunteer readers.

Volunteers from various departments within Corning Incorporated will be VIRTUALLY sharing these stories and interacting with our students during a Wednesday Falcon Connection Day in February! This year, students in Pre-K will be read the book **The Crayon Box That Talked** by Shane Derolf and Michael Letzig. Students in Kindergarten will be read **The Day the Crayons Quit** by Drew Daywalt. Students in grade 1 will be read **Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History** by Vashti Harrison. Grade 2 students will be read **Henry's Freedom Box** by Ellen Levine. Grade 3 students will be read **Ruth and the Green Book** by Calvin Alexander Ramsey, and students in grade 4 will be read **Through My Eyes** by Ruby Bridges.

The focus of the guided discussions will start with grade 1 on black inventors, grade 2 on slavery/civil war, grade 3 on segregation, grade 4 on integration; plus other information that is unique to each book. We greatly appreciate this opportunity and look forward to a continued partnership with Corning Incorporated.

January —The month of:

Fairness

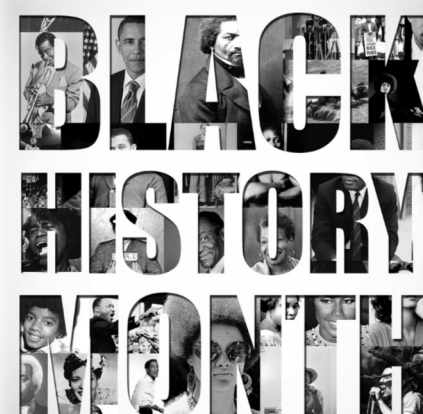
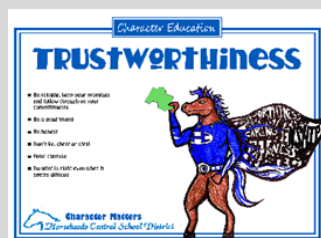
- Play by the rules
- Take turns and share
- Be open-minded
- Listen to others
- Treat all people fairly
- Don't take advantage of others
- Don't blame others carelessly



February —The month of:

Trustworthiness

- Be honest
- Don't deceive, cheat, or steal
- Be reliable – do what you say you'll do
- Have the courage to do the right thing
- Build a good reputation
- Be loyal – stand by your family, friends, and country



Mark Your Calendars

Jan 1

NO SCHOOL—Winter Recess

Jan 5 & Jan 8

Hats Off to the New Year—Wear your hat

Jan 12

Picture Make-Up Day (Cohort A)

Jan 13

MLK Jr. Virtual Celebration

Jan 14

Picture Make-Up Day (Cohort B)

Jan 18

NO SCHOOL—MLK Jr. Day

Jan 20

Cohort A students in school

Jan 21

BOE Meeting; 6pm

Feb 1

NO SCHOOL—Superintendent's Conference Day

Feb 2

PTO Mtg; 6pm

Feb 9

Kindergarten Registration

Feb 12

Report Cards Go Home

Feb 15-16

NO SCHOOL—President's Day Recess

Feb 17

Virtual Valentine's Day Party—Wear Pink & Red

Feb 25

BOE Mtg; 6pm

Feb 26

Trooper Sperr Day—Wear Purple & Gray

Please remember that January 26th, 27th and 29th are full days of school for us here at Big Flats Elementary.

Picture Retake Days are:

- **January 12th—Cohort A/Remote students**
- **January 14th—Cohort B/Remote students**

Please check the website at mylifetouch.com to view your student's pictures before picture retake day.

Learn Up-To-Date Information About Our Schools and the District

Facebook: The district and each of our seven schools have pages. "Like" them to see our information in your news feed.

Twitter: Follow us on Twitter at [@HhdsSchools](https://twitter.com/HhdsSchools) to read our tweets.

Follow Mrs. Scaptura on Twitter at [@escaptura1](https://twitter.com/escaptura1)

Instagram: The district's page—[hhdsschools](https://www.instagram.com/hhdsschools)

Visit our district website at: www.horseheadsdistrict.com.

Questions about our website or social media? E-mail

hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com



Horseheads Central School District sets the standard of educational excellence by fostering innovative thinking, curiosity, and a passion for learning to maximize the potential of each individual. We engage with our local and global communities to provide a student-centered, nurturing environment.

Explore

Empower

Excel

Dignity Act Coordinator

The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for Big Flats Elementary is Elizabeth Scaptura. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student should be referred to Mrs. Scaptura at (607)-739-6373. The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for the Horseheads Central School District is Caitlin DeFilippo, director of Human Resources. If there is a complaint regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student, the complaint should be filed with Caitlin DeFilippo at One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845; 607-739-5601 x4211, or cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com.

Non-Discrimination Notification




The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, marital status, military status, sex, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, predisposing genetic characteristic, or disability, and provides equal access to applicable groups under the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. Inquiries regarding this policy may be made to Caitlin DeFilippo, Title IX/DASA Coordinator, and Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; Anthony Gill, Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; or Kelly Squires, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.

This policy of non-discrimination includes access by students to educational programs, counseling services, course offerings, and activities, as well as recruitment and appointment of employees and employment pay, benefits, advancement and/or termination.

January 2021



Horseheads Central School District In School Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 PaySchools Central Make Online Payments at Payschoolcentral.com/				1 
4 French Toast Sticks & Sausage Turkey Club Sub Sliced Carrots	5 Italian Meatball Sub Chicken BLT Salad w/Bread Choice Broccoli	6 NY Cheese Stick & Yogurt w/Soft Pretzel Ham & Cheese Sandwich Broccoli	7 French Toast Sticks & Sausage Turkey Club Sub Sliced Carrots	8 Italian Meatball Sub Chicken BLT Salad w/Bread Choice Broccoli
11 Pizza Dunkers w/Marinara Sauce Buffalo Chicken Wrap Sliced Carrots	12 Meat Walking Taco w/Rice Bean Walking Taco w/Rice Chicken Caesar Salad w/Bread Choice Golden Sweet Corn Refried Beans	13 NY Cheese Stick & Yogurt w/Soft Pretzel Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Broccoli	14 Pizza Dunkers w/Marinara Sauce Buffalo Chicken Wrap Sliced Carrots	15 Meat Walking Taco w/Rice Bean Walking Taco w/Rice Chicken Caesar Salad w/Bread Choice Golden Sweet Corn Refried Beans
18 	19 Chicken & Orange Sauce w/Rice Chicken BLT Salad w/Bread Choice Broccoli	20 Mini Pancakes w/Sausage Ham & Cheese Sandwich Sliced Carrots	21 Chicken & Orange Sauce w/Rice w/Bread Choice Chicken BLT Salad Broccoli	22 Mini Pancakes w/Sausage Ham & Cheese Sandwich Sliced Carrots
25 Ultimate Cheese Breadstick w/Marinara Sauce Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Sliced Carrots	26 Authentic Pulled Pork Sandwich Chicken Caesar Salad w/Bread Choice Broccoli	27 Chef Salad w/Soft Pretzel Tuna Salad Sandwich Broccoli	28 Ultimate Cheese Breadstick w/Marinara Sauce Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Sliced Carrots	29 Authentic Pulled Pork Sandwich Chicken Caesar Salad w/Bread Choice Broccoli

DAILY ENTREES Elem/Int/Middle:

PBJ Sandwich
Tues/Fri: Cheese Pizza
M/TH: Baked Chicken Nuggets
w/Bread
Wed: Baked Chicken Nuggets
w/Bread or Cheese Pizza

DAILY ENTREES High School:

PBJ Sandwich
Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Soft Pretzel
Crispy Chicken Sandwich
Assorted Pizza

Available Daily Sides

Fresh Vegetables
Fruit Choice
NY Chilled Milk
*Bread Choice = Soft Pretzel or
Bagel

PRICING:

Grades PK-6th: \$2.10
Grades 7th-12th: \$2.35
Reduced: \$0.00
Breakfast: \$1.25
Milk/Ala Carte Sides: \$0.75
Snacks: \$0.50-\$1.30

Breakfast Menu

Choice 1: Cinnamon Roll
or
M/W/F: Cereal Bowl &
Goldfish Graham
T/TH: Cereal Bowl & Muffin
Top

Daily Options: Fruit Choice,
100% Fruit Juice & Asst. Milk

wake up!
School Breakfast

Contact the Food Service Office if you have any questions, comments or concerns. We can be reached at (607) 739-5601 (ext. 3671 or ext. 3674) or go to the School District Website Food Service Page & click on the Contact Us button to fill in and submit your information.

This institution is an equal
opportunity employer & provider.

This menu is subject to change
with out advance notice.



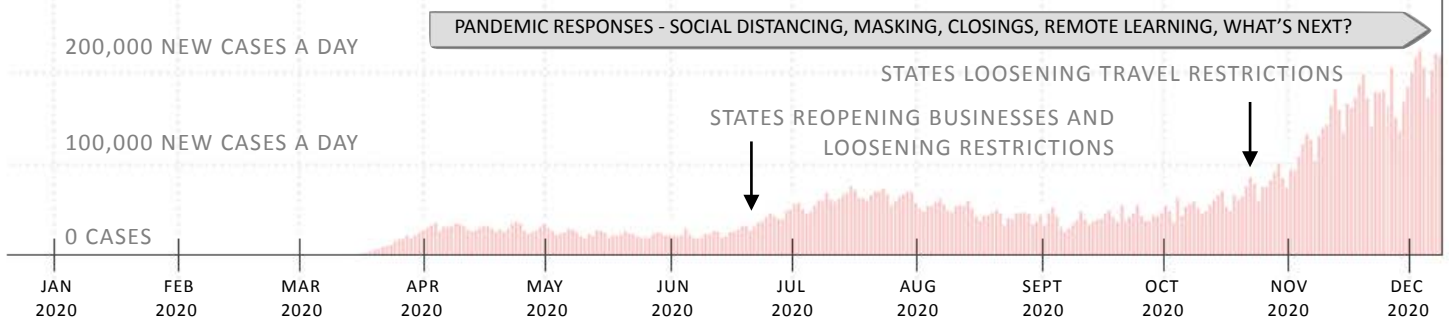
Digital Citizen News

January 2021

Volume 4 : Issue 5 - January 2021

This month we focus on Digital Communication

U.S. NEW DAILY CASES OF COVID-19 (as reported by the New York Times December 10, 2020)



What information is being communicated to you by this digital image? What conclusions might you draw from it?

Source: <http://go.gstric.org/405-covid-cases>

Welcome 2021

I think that we all would agree that 2020 was a very different year. It was also a very difficult year. Many American's lives were upset by the appearance of the COVID-19 virus.

If you are like us, you are probably hoping that 2021 will be better a year. A year full of healing and happiness, and a year of trying to get back to some sense of a normal life.

Use your Digital Citizen Skills to have the best 2021 that you can. Don't give up hope.



Blue Irises
symbols of hope

Source: <http://go.gstric.org/405-blue-iris>

CREATE A COMMUNICATIONS SURVEY

In this time of pandemic and social distancing, how much do you use digital communications? You may have access to a cell phone. You may also have a tablet, a laptop, or a desktop computer that you can use. How much do you use each device? What percentage of your day is spent online?

Do you communicate most by voice calls, text messages, shared images, audio, or video? Do you use SnapChat, or TikTok? How does your use of these platforms compare to your friends use of them?

Can you quantify your use of digital communications in terms of minutes or hours, of numbers of emails, texts, videos, etc? Ask your friends to share their data and create a report about it.

Are there any areas of communication that you need to work on? Let us know what you think about digital communication at dc@gstboces.org.

CALENDAR CONTEST

STUDENTS! GET YOUR ORIGINAL ART PUBLISHED IN OUR ANNUAL DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP CALENDAR!

CONTEST DEADLINE:
FEBRUARY 28th 2021

GET ALL THE DETAILS AND ENTRY FORM AT <http://go.gstric.org/405-contest>





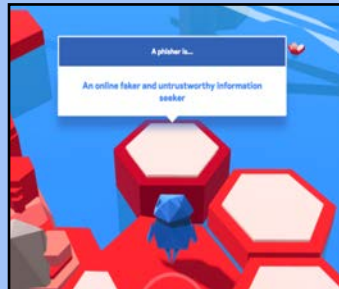
Activity Time for January 2021

This month we complete our journey into Internet Awesomeness as we cross the Reality River.

Over the last several newsletters, you have successfully dodged hackers, kept your secrets safe, and were mindful of others in digital spheres using Google's Be Internet Awesome experience.

In this month's newsletter, our focus will be on being "Internet Alert." As the Be Internet Awesome Initiative states "it's important to help kids become aware that people and situations online aren't always as they seem. Discerning between what's real and what's fake is a very real lesson in online safety.

In our final visit to Interland, you will guide your Internaut across the **Reality River**, where your goal is "cross the rapids using your best judgment; but watch out for phishers who will try and trick you." Answer 10 questions based on what might happen in your digital life.



You can play at <http://go.gstric.org/405-river>. Once you've safely crossed Reality River, check out the Be Internet Awesome pledge using our link at <http://go.gstric.org/405-pledge>.

Share with Care PROTECTING YOUR ONLINE REPUTATION	MINDFUL MOUNTAIN 	 VISIT
Secure Your Secrets GETTING REAL ABOUT PRIVACY AND SECURITY	TOWER OF TREASURE 	 VISIT
It's Cool to Be Kind THE POWER OF ONLINE POSITIVITY	KIND KINGDOM 	 VISIT
Don't Fall for Fake STAYING AWAY FROM PHISHING AND SCAMS	REALITY RIVER 	 VISIT

Be Internet Awesome ▲ **Smart** ▲ **Alert** ▲ **Strong** ▲ **Kind** ▲ **Brave**

"What is a New Year's Resolution?"

Many of us make, and break, our New Year's Resolutions each year. According to the U.S. News and World Report, about 80% of people break their New Year's promises by mid-February.

Ancient Babylonians are said to have been the first people to make New Year's resolutions, some 4,000 years ago. They made promises to the gods to pay their debts and return any objects they had borrowed. If they kept to their word, their gods would bestow favor on them for the coming year.

LIBRARY FUN FACT

In the early 18th century Moravian churchgoers began marking the first day of the New Year with a vigil to reflect upon the year past and to contemplate the one to come. Commonly known as "watch night" for early Christians.

LIBRARY FUN FACT

The first New Year's ball was dropped in Times Square in 1907. The event was organized by Adolph Ochs, owner of The New York Times.

The first Rose Bowl game was played in 1902 and the first Tournament of Roses Parade was held in 1890.

LIBRARY FUN FACT

Your Assignment: Do some research on New Year's Resolutions and then create a resolution of your own to improve one of your Digital Citizenship Skills in the New Year. Ask your school librarian to help you develop your resolution so that is realistic and attainable. Write it down and then share it with us at dc@gstboces.org.

If your school isn't operating in-person or in some hybrid mode, find out from your librarian how you can use your school library's resources from home.

Visit the SLS Virtual Electronic Library at <http://go.gstric.org/sls-virtual-library>





Dear Techie Tom

Learning to Chat Appropriately

Dear Dave,

Great question! Often we think of the classroom chat feature as a place to talk with people as we do with messaging on social media. However, the chat feature in online sessions is actually similar to conversations teachers and students have in the classroom. The language used in classroom chats and video conferences is usually a little more formal than social media chat. Try to avoid slang and special online abbreviations.

Typical statements in an online classroom chat would be:

A question pertaining to the content being discussed

Clarification on directions for an activity

Providing additional ideas or thoughts for content being learned

Answering a teacher's question

Sharing links & resources to help others with the activity or content

Following these tips will allow for great classroom discussions and help you communicate better with teachers and other adults.

-Techie Tom

To send question to Techie Tom email dc@gstboces.org and use the subject line: Question for Techie Tom.

graymatters

Using Better Questions
to Promote More

Critical Thinking

Leverage remote learning by posing questions that the students cannot answer just by simple recollection or by reciting the information directly from the text. Specifically, ask questions that expect your students to apply, analyze, synthesize and evaluate the information instead of simply recalling a list of facts.

One way to do this is to use question stems that will prompt the students to give more than just simple answers.

Here are a few examples to consider:

- ❓ What evidence can you present for/against <your topic>?
- ❓ Why is <your topic> significant? Explain your reasoning.
- ❓ What ideas could you add to <your topic> and how would these ideas change it?
- ❓ Describe <your topic> from the perspective of <point of view>
- ❓ What patterns do you notice in <your topic>?

Use these links for more about questioning:

High Order Questions

<http://go.gstric.org/405-questions>

Question Stems for Any Content Area:

<http://go.gstric.org/405-content>

Accountable Math Stems for Students

<http://go.gstric.org/405-math-stems>

Use Webb's Depth of Knowledge in Your Questions

Depth of Knowledge 1

Routine Thinking

- Can you recall ____?
- Can you identify ____?
- How would you describe ____?
- What would you include on a list about ____?
- How can you find the meaning of ____?

arrange	calculate	memorize
measure	name	recognize
recall	repeat	identify
illustrate	match	label
state	list	state

Depth of Knowledge 2

Conceptual Thinking

- Can you explain how ____ affected ____?
- How would you summarize ____?
- What do you notice about ____?
- How would you estimate ____?
- How could you organize ____?
- How would you apply what you learned?

compare	classify	categorize
measure	graph	distinguish
predict	modify	construct
organize	infer	summarize
interpret	make observations	

Depth of Knowledge 3

Strategic Thinking

- How is ____ related to ____?
- Can you elaborate on ____?
- How would you test ____?
- What evidence supports ____?
- Why is that the best answer?

assess	compare	construct
apprise	revise	hypothesize
critique	investigate	
draw conclusions		
develop a logical argument		

Depth of Knowledge 4

Extended Reasoning

- Write a research paper.
- What information can you gather to support your idea about ____?
- Write a thesis, drawing conclusions from multiple sources.
- Apply information from one text to another to develop a persuasive argument.

design	connect	prove
analyze	critique	synthesize
create	apply concepts	

