

Dear Parents,

On June 4th we will begin a 5th grade city simulation project! This is an exciting time in the life of the classroom as we anticipate a lot of fun combined with some great learning. The first step is for you to help your child get a refrigerator box/washer/dryer box or Home depot box (to be their apartment) and to help them decorate it. (see attached pictures for ideas.) The specific requirements are attached. Please email or call if you have any questions. We don't want this to be stressful for you! You will also find a list of suggestions for businesses. Your child should be thinking about what he/she would like to do to earn an income. We will work with the students on some principles of economics, advertising, and government as we proceed through this project.

One question that always arises with a project of this dimension is, "How much of the work should we as parents do?" We can only offer some guidelines. Allow and encourage your child to do as much as he/she is capable of doing to feel successful. Assist your child when you feel it is appropriate. This is a great opportunity to teach your child how to use some tools or the sewing machine, how to apply measurement skills to a real-life situation, etc. Some tasks (just a few) will require parental work. This is a special project that you and your child can enjoy working on together – just remember to keep it child-centered! Your child's apartment should not look like it was professionally decorated/ it should look like a fifth grader did the work with some parental tips and assistance. So, with that in mind, have fun! This is going to be one of those experiences your child will remember for a lifetime!

With anticipation,

Mr. Regala and Mrs. Stover

Dates to bring boxes: June 1st (after or before school, 730-0800 or 230-300). *You will need to be available to help your child set up their "apartments" with their desk inside.

Date to pick up boxes: Friday June 15th after school.

***The school cannot dispose of boxes.** Thank you for your cooperation!

CLASSROOM CITY

CITY APARTMENTS

Each student needs a refrigerator box to decorate for an apartment. You should begin your search for these right away. Sears, Jack Roberts and Bothell Appliance are good places to check. If you are able to pick up several and then share with another family, please do so.

* Home Depot has boxes you can buy and put together.

The top of the box should be cut off at a height of no greater than $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet. No extra large, or "double" refrigerator boxes may be used. We don't have enough room in the

* Box will go over student desks...

* Width
Minimum/Max
 $3 \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ feet

* Depth
Minimum/Max
 $3\frac{1}{2} \times 4$ feet



classrooms! A door must be cut in the front of the box. This door opening is an opening; it does not have a hinged flap. There must also be a window in the front of the box that cannot be shut so that the student can be observed. If you have a smaller box and the window does not fit on the front, there must be a window on one of the sides. It is all right to have an additional window. A mail slot needs to be cut in the front wall next to the door

opening with some kind of catcher for daily mail. The slot may be vertical or horizontal. Each student must also have some sort of waste container inside the apartment. It is a good idea to leave the bottom of the box intact; it acts as a floor and provides stability for the box. Carpeting or a rug may be added. Boxes may be painted, spray painted, wallpapered, contact papered, stenciled, etc. Use materials that you have at home so the expense is kept at a minimum. Keep it simple - this is not a competition!! Last year many parents found that this project gave them special time working, planning, and creating with their children. Decorations, posters, etc. may be hung on internal walls, but they must be appropriate for school. Be sure to leave room for the student's desk to fit in the box. The box must be partially collapsible to fit in the door of the classroom.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. All decorating must be completed BEFORE the boxes are brought to school.

2. Each student must have some kind of "attention signal" for signaling the teacher when they need help. This "signal" can be a flag on a pole, a glove mounted on a broom handle, or some other creative-attention grabber. Noisemakers will NOT be acceptable!

 **3. IF ANY APARTMENT DOES NOT MEET THE ABOVE DESCRIBED "CITY CODE" IT WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN THE CITY LIMITS!** 

4. Your child should begin exploring ideas for his/her business. No food will be allowed as a service or product. Encourage your child to select something that they already have, such as extra baseball cards to sell or a large stuffed animal collection that they could rent. If you supply materials for your child, please have them use the materials to make something.

Students will earn money by operating businesses that provide either goods or services to the citizens of our city. All students will receive a weekly salary determined by drawn cards for their participation in the simulation.

BUSINESS IDEAS;

Services- Apartment cleaning maid service

Chair pad rental

Interior decorating

Book rental

Poster rental

Tutorial service

Book cover design service

Products- Baseball cards

Basketball hoop game

Games

Stuffed animal rental

Arcade game rental

Knickknacks

Calendars

Bookmarks

Computer designed stationary or cards

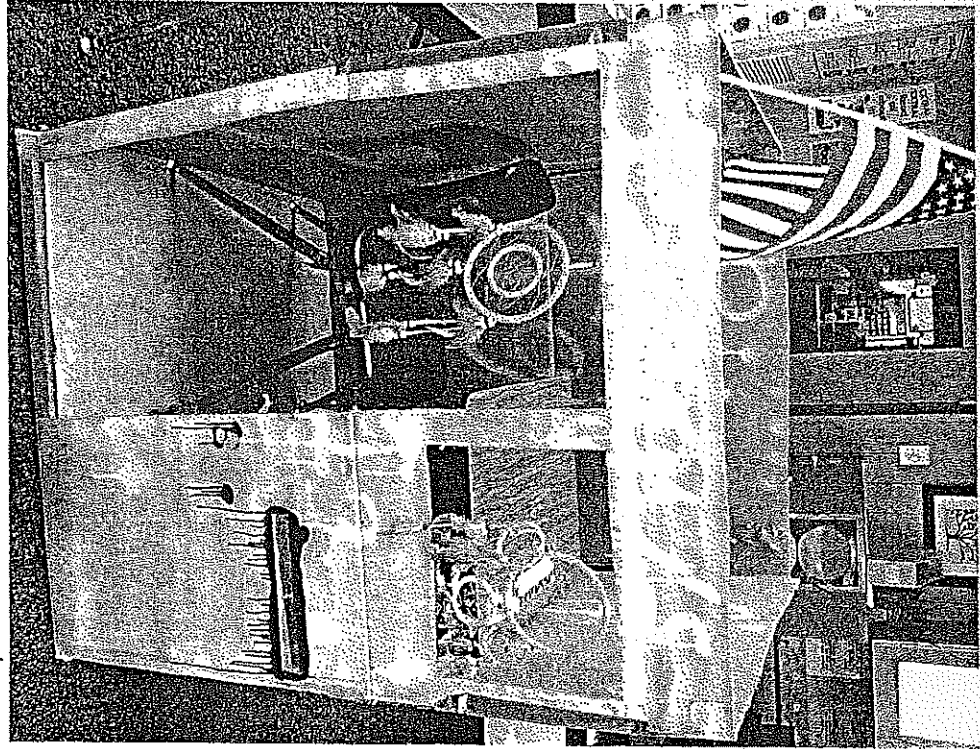
Custom-made jewelry

Friendship bracelets

Scrunchies

Clay figures

Refrigerator magnets



Height
Max
4 ft.

Width
3 to 3 1/2 feet

Depth
3 1/2 to 4 feet
max

