Week of 3/17/14

1. General
   1. Nice, quick article with some suggestions for helping us “put some spring into our steps” -- <http://www.edutopia.org/blog/adding-spring-beat-winter-blues-nick-provenzano>

More than any other suggestions, though, I would like to second the idea that you try to observe each other some. You all have some great things going on in your classes!

* 1. If you received the link for the Duke survey, please take the time to do it. (It only took me about 2 minutes.) Who knows… It could be used for something worthwhile.
  2. Project-based Learning – If you’d like to try incorporating PBLs into your classes, you may want to check out this site -- <http://www.pblproject.com/page.aspx?pageid=PBL-ww-Theme-Parks>

This is a sample of one of their PBL lesson plans, and they have several others if you go to the site. Let me know if you like these, and I can check out the license agreement for future use.

* 1. Women’s History Month is March – if you want to work in some lessons, check out this site <http://www.edudemic.com/womens-history-month/>
  2. SAS institute’s online interactive activities – If you’ve never used SAS before, please let me know. I will be happy to help you play around in their site and see if there are some activities you can use. I used this quite a bit in my classes, and the kids seemed to really enjoy these activities. Go to <http://www.sascurriculumpathways.com/portal/>

to check it out. And, yes, this site is FREE! If you want to use it with class, I’ll get you the generic logon info.

1. Reading Resources – could be helpful in any class
   1. NewsELA site – check this one out, for example. They have an article about tree rings and what they suggest about weather patterns that could have impacted the rise of Genghis Khan, and you can choose an appropriate lexile level for your class. <http://newsela.com/articles/genghiskhan-trees/id/3023/>

(If you need an account to login, it’s free & quick to set up. If you want to use mine to see if it’s even worthwhile, let me know.)

1. Social Studies
   1. Read Works has some nice passages that may work in your classes -- <http://www.readworks.org/reading-passages-historical-subjects?utm_source=Email&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=031714%20History%20EST>
2. Math
   1. I just thought this visual was great, and it could be useful or maybe spur some ideas for your classes <http://www.edudemic.com/teach-basic-math/>
3. ELA
   1. Great idea for using comic strips (this could help provide some interesting opportunities to develop literacy in many forms) -- <http://www.middleweb.com/14010/ha-ha-building-serious-skills-using-stand-comedy/>
4. Just for fun…

