Activity: AVID Weekly Reading and Vocabulary

Week: May 4 – May 8

Priority Standard(s):
- Determine the main idea of grade appropriate text.
- Develop awareness of visuals.
- Use multiple reading strategies to better understand text.

You Try
- Read the provided article: A Helped Hand Becomes a Helping Hand
- Answer questions, Reflection and Set a Goal

Show me what you know (Proof of learning)
Complete your work and e-mail pictures (or solutions) to your teachers.

Self-Assessment
Did I complete all of the tasks?
Did I try my best?

What am I learning?
Summarizing what you’ve read.
Reading For Understanding

How do I know I learned?
Learning Evidence in 1-3 Descriptors
- I can concisely explain the information from the article in my own words, including the use of newly learned vocabulary.
- I completed the questions, reflection, and goal setting activities following the article.

Extra Learning Opportunities: Find another article of your own choosing online, pick a topic that interests you. Define important vocabulary terms in the reading, then create a tl;dr to summarize what you just read.
May 8, 2020

**Essential Question**: How can technology promote equitability and “flatten the playing field” for all scholars?

**Quick Write** - Take 75 Seconds to write in the provided space based on the given prompt:

How can technology be used to help students understand and access challenging educational material?

(Possible sentence stem - One way that technology can be used by students is... Students who have access to technology can use that access to...)

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Read

Read the article three times.

First read - Give yourself nine minutes to try and get the gist of the article. Read through the article without interruptions from start to finish.

Second read - Get organized! Number the paragraphs, underline all vocabulary words. Remember when numbering paragraphs you only need to identify the first couple words of each paragraph and put a number in the margin. “Being young” - 1, “Growing up in Mombasa,” - 2, etc.

Third read - Write a summary that captures the main idea and sums up the gist of the article. Then complete the three questions, reflection, and goal setting following the article.

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A helped hand becomes a helping hand

By Mary Mwende Alex

Being young, and especially being a girl from my community, I speak for youth here and in other places where conditions are similar.

Growing up in Mombasa, Kenya, was amazing because I learned so much, but lack of resources and poverty were sometimes frustrating. I knew I didn’t have much, but I was happy. I never thought having a lot of things would make me happy.

One thing I wasn’t happy with: education. I wanted more. I wanted to go to high school and university. I had the drive. I had the will. I had the grades, but I didn’t have resources. Even basic resources of food, water, shelter and electricity weren’t readily available, though they are better now. When you are poor, you constantly worry about basic necessities.

Young people in poverty have little or no access to high school and tertiary education (university and trade schools). Where I lived it was challenging if someone didn’t intervene.

When I completed grade school, I was in the same predicament as many other financially disadvantaged youth. Luckily, during the same year of my completion of grade school, a charitable high school for girls, Starehe Girls Centre, was founded and I received a scholarship. In fact, I was the first girl to show up at the school gate with my mother. Today, I am on record as being the ‘first’ student to be enrolled in this school.

In 2006, my school joined The Global Give Back Circle, a not-for-profit organization for girls that
integrates mentoring, private sector investment and community support in a circle of empowerment that helps a disadvantaged girl complete her education, gain employable skills and become an agent of change herself. I was assigned to a mentor, Charlotte Gower.

After graduating from high school, I was given access to a nine-month IT course that made the world flat by giving me access to resources and leveling the playing field for me and 535 other girls in the Circle. In addition, the organization's give-back ethos had been embedded in us to not only care about ourselves but other people. All of the girls read President Clinton's Book, “Giving” and through its teachings we learned how to give back time and skills to our communities.

With this in mind, 10 of us girls created a website called “Hey Sister, Get Clued-Up.” Through this peer-to-peer educational website aimed at networking 10,000 African girls worldwide, all Sisters commit to use the “Power of Their Voice” to transmit information to their villages to promote financial empowerment, advance information related to health issues (especially reproductive health) and provide knowledge around social networking etiquette. These critical elements successfully transition, through education and the development of skills, a disadvantaged girl from poverty to prosperity.

“Hey Sister, Get Clued-Up” is only accessible to those girls who have access to the Internet, which highlights one of the greatest challenges in narrowing the digital divide between the haves and have-nots. But our plan is that these girls will commit to disseminate what they learn to other girls through the “Power of Their Voice: – using their voice to be the “Voice of the Village.”
In addition to the challenge of obtaining an education, access to skills that render a young person ready for the workforce is also challenging. Such needs include computer and information technology skills, and additional training such as accounting skills, critical thinking skills and practical skills such as public speaking, presentation skills, entrepreneurial skills and personal and interpersonal skills in the business world.

There are a lot of landmines lurking on university campuses that girls can fall prey to. Just imagine if you are a girl and in a financially disadvantaged situation. The ramifications are twice as bad. My imagination cannot fathom the number of ways in which I could have fallen through the cracks. But on the brighter side, when a girl is educated, the returns are twice as much!

Linda Lockhart, founder of the Global Give Back Circle says, “In today’s economy, a young woman with a nursing, teaching or accounting degree is highly valued, but a nurse, teacher or accountant with technology skills writes her own ticket in the job market.

To learn more about the Global Give Back Circle and “Hey Sister, Get Clued-Up,” visit their websites at www.globalgivebackcircle.org and www.heysister.org See a video at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9kJJubdnFw

Mary Mwende Alex is from Mombasa, Kenya. She is an ambassador in the Global Give Back Circle, a program she says changed her life and the lives of more than 500 girls in the program.
Questions: After reading “A helped hand becomes a helping hand” answer the following questions.

1. What challenges did the author have to overcome in her pursuit of a high-quality education?

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2. What sources of support did Mary Mwende Alex rely on for support?

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3. What did Mary Mwende Alex manage to do after achieving her goals to pay-it-forward and help others?

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Reflection: What are some challenges that you have encountered in pursuing your educational goals? What sources of support have you found? How can you give back to the community?

Design Your Own Organization: Using the provided template, create your own organization and design a powerpoint slide to introduce it:

• What will you call your organization?
• Design a logo!
• What are some needs (in either your community, or the world at large) that your organization will address?
• What strategies can your organization implement?
• How can people access the support provided by your organization?
• Why is it important to address the needs that you’ve identified?

If you choose to you may include additional slides for more detail.
Title of Organization

“Organization Motto”

Purpose of Organization

Use this space to describe the issue that your organization will address, and briefly summarize how your organization will provide relief regarding that issue.

Who it Serves

Use this space to describe the people your organization will aid, and briefly explain how those people will be able to access that aid.

Why it is Important

Use this space to explain why it's important to address the issue that you've selected, and what the result will be once people have been assisted by your organization.