

Dear seventh grade students and parents,

Welcome to the world of Sense of Place! We are excited to introduce you to an exploration into the seacoast of New Hampshire. We will be embarking on a cross-curricular, expeditionary project which students will be working on for the remainder of the year.



Through inquiry and the research process, each student will investigate a topic that is of primary interest and relates to our region. The goal of the project is to have students use various disciplines, skills and techniques to display and communicate what they have learned about their chosen topic. Students will create essential questions, conduct research, and share their findings through a variety of products. When the students choose their own topic of learning, they are more inspired, better understand the topic's relevance and develop ownership in their own learning. With guidance, students will become active thinkers rather than passive learners.

To begin this process, we are asking parents to help students to generate topics or areas of interest from around the Seacoast. Past examples of topics, rubrics and other necessary documents are posted on the Seventh Grade team website on the "Sense of Place" page. <http://rjh7.weebly.com/sense-of-place.html>

As the project progresses we are expecting students to seek out primary sources and explore topics on a deeper, more analytical level. The expected outcome is for students to share something new about the topic (new twist, unique presentation, new knowledge).

This exploration into our community will take quite a bit of time, which is already built into our schedule. We will be presenting student projects at an after school celebration the second week of June. Parents, grandparents and the community are welcome to attend this exciting event! The specific date will be released after April vacation, when schedules are clear about other community events.

Thank you,
Seventh grade team

