

## Sunday, April 5

Grey clouds again but not so cold today. Eleven degrees and no frost is expected tonight. Slowly, slowly, life is warming up.

A friend and I walked – two metres apart - on the dyke down by the Fraser River this afternoon. Lots of families out enjoying the fresh air. Babies In buggies, children on bicycles, teenagers ambling along with their parents. We were all grateful to be able to get outside for a while.

Here at home, I'm starting a new project: a photographic record of all the plants and trees on my property and in the neighbourhood. I've started taking pictures with my ipad and making a slide collection to help me memorize information about each flower and shrub. My bookshelves hold plant books that can supply all the facts, so I don't have to spend more time on a computer than I already do every day.



This week, I want you to start thinking about a project of your own. More details will be provided in the days ahead, but there are a few ground rules I can give you right now. Your project must focus on activities that are not primarily on a computer. You will already - due to the circumstances - be spending too much time in front of a screen this term. Therefore, I'm thinking that some of you may want to focus on paper crafts you can make (and then share – with the directions for making them – on a Google Slides or Powerpoint presentation). Or – if you live on a farm – you could make a visual record of all the tasks and activities that are part of rural life in spring: give your viewers an idea of what it is like to live on a piece of property in the country. Some of you may prefer to create some new recipes in your kitchen and then share them – along with photographs and all the directions. Or you may want to do some research on famous artists and then create your own works of art by copying their styles.

Will you get marks for this? Of course! Art marks for your presentation skills. ELA marks for the clarity of your explanations. S.S. marks if you do some research. Science marks if your topic relates to botany. Start thinking!

Now for your weekly schedule: You have to make one. But please also complete the Google Classroom assignment explaining whether it is better for you to follow that strict schedule every day or whether you can be more flexible. You have enough experience with different teachers to understand how there are different styles of organizing a day. And I think you know my style: get the hardest task done first, make sure to be on time for any appointments, and then be flexible. But that is just for me. What is best for you?