

Dear First Grade Families,

Welcome to your first grade year at La Tierra Community School! My name is Miss Klaiber; this year will be my fifth year of teaching first grade at La Tierra Community School. I am so excited to be your crew leader this school year!

First grade is an exciting year of academic, social and emotional growth for kids and I am so excited to be a part of this incredible experience. Students will learn how to work together to solve problems and challenge their thinking. Our class will have a strong focus on character development; the first graders will learn what it means to be creative, responsible, respectful, compassionate, and courageous as well as to have integrity. All first grade students will be challenged and encouraged in their learning, actions, and habits.

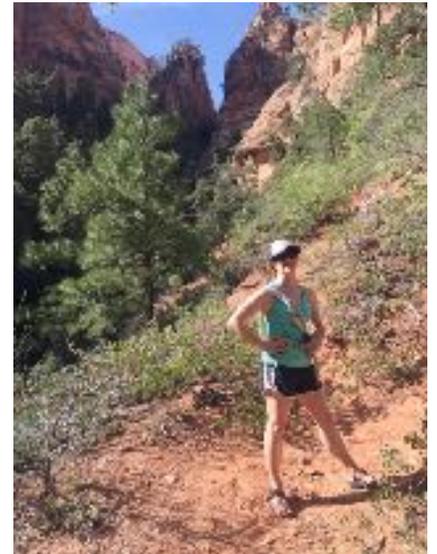
La Tierra first graders will experience two learning expeditions throughout the 2017-2018 school year. During the fall semester students will investigate the world of butterflies through our Wings of Wonder expedition. Students will become emerged in the world of the butterfly, learning their life cycle, migration habits and the importance of butterflies to our world. We will raise caterpillars into adult butterflies in our classroom, watching them grow and change through their metamorphosis. Students will read, research, and write to help cement their understanding of butterflies, as well as have concrete experiences through fieldwork and service projects culminating the expedition with a trip to Butterfly Wonderland in Scottsdale.

In the spring semester we will begin The Search for Buried Treasure expedition. Through this expedition students will experience and learn about our geological world. We will investigate the layers of the Earth, the rock cycle and gain an understanding of the three different types of rock. Students will learn about how rocks are used by people both in modern times and ancient times. We will build the layers of the Grand Canyon, extract copper from copper ore and make our own pictographs! The first graders will cap off this expedition with an overnight trip in late spring to experience ancient dwellings and geology in our area.

I am so excited to be continuing my teaching career at La Tierra Community School. Seeing your students grow and change throughout the year is such a privilege and a joy. I hope to instill and foster a love of learning, reading and exploring life in each child in my classroom. I am looking forward to collaborating with you and building a community within our class in order to give each student the best first grade year possible.

See you in August!

Love,
Miss Klaiber



This is a photograph of me on a recent backpacking trip to Zion National Park. I love being able to explore and adventure through the southwest!