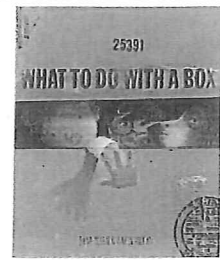


Name: _____



*Ranchero Elementary School's
Most Magnificent Thing
COMPASSION
School Project!*



Here at Ranchero Elementary, ***Critical Thinking*** has been one of the Core Competencies of the new curriculum that we have been learning and practicing. Critical thinking, or the need to think deeper and differently about a subject, are important qualities to instill in children to help them navigate through their learning and their lives. Critical thinking skills will help students learn to interpret and understand information, rather than simply memorizing it.

The three phases of critical thinking are:

- **Analyze** – *reflect on and evaluate thinking, products and actions*
- **Question** – *explore materials and actions*
- **Develop** – *design and experiment with different ways of doing things*

Two years ago we launched a project that was so much fun we are doing it again but this time with a twist. Today, we launched a school project called ***Ranchero's Most Magnificent Thing COMPASSION Project***. Students will be designing 'magnificent things' out of the empty boxes they have brought, practicing the stages of critical thinking along the way. ***This time their magnificent things will be designed to help someone, a group of people, an animal, the environment, or a global issue of some sort. They need to think "out of the box"!***

More information on the back! Oh! So exciting!

Name: _____

At this point, families are welcome to support the box projects by sending in extra supplies in to school. These can be simple things that you might have extras of around your home or that you find in your recycling bin. They might include:

* String * Buttons * Paper tubes * Popsicle sticks * Paper clips * Pop bottle lids * Tape etc

Let your imaginations guide you! Please send your child's extra supplies to school as soon as possible. If you wish to send extra items for other students to share, please feel free to.

IMPORTANT!!!

What we would NOT like you to do is DO the project for your child. All of the fun is going to be done at school and even teachers are not going to help unless absolutely necessary (our youngest children will receive appropriate assistance). Part of this project is about learning how to deal with feelings of frustration, persevere when something does not work and going back to the drawing board maybe more than once. We encourage you to read the book "The Most Magnificent Thing" By Ashley Spires, the inspiration behind this whole project. It is on You Tube!

And finally...

SAVE THE DATE! We invite you to see our Magnificent Things on THURSDAY MAY 9, 2019 from 5:30 – 7:00 pm! Or FRIDAY MAY 10, 9:00 – 11:00

Thank you for your support,

Ranchero Staff