

Panthergram 4.17.17

6th grade LA/SS

6th grade students in language arts have been writing, writing, writing. They have written original Greek myths, and characterization, expository, argument, and conflict essays. They are now near-experts on how to write thesis statements. When they aren't writing, they have been reading the science fiction novel, *The Tripods*, by John Christopher. This novel, written in 1967, is a dystopic novel where humans have been taken over by "tripods," enormous three-legged machines that can control how the humans think.

In social studies, we have left ancient Rome and are now at our final stop in the ancient world, China. We will spend the rest of the year studying this complex and sophisticated culture. China is a land of extremes, from the world's highest mountains, the Himalayas, to one of the world's largest deserts, the Taklimakan. Currently, we are looking at how geography impacted where people settled. Students are making decisions, using what they've learned about past civilizations, about the best place to settle for growing crops, and creating shelters.