



The Barnette Bear Beat



Following the Students and Staff of Barnette

Each month we will bring you information based on the staff and students of Barnette Elementary. This will be an opportunity to highlight various staff and students, grade level events and happenings, school culture, and curriculum tidbits.

NOVEMBER EDITION:

Staff Member of the Month: Each month our administration team decides on an All Star Teacher for the month. Below are this month's winner.

All Star Teacher of the Month: Mrs. Hicks



1. My husband and I have a 3 1/2 year old daughter named Gracyn and 2 pugs.
2. I'm originally from Southern California and grew up a Los Angeles Dodgers fan.
3. This is my eleventh year teaching at Barnette. I've taught both second and third grade.
4. My happy place is the beach.
5. A few years ago, I had the opportunity to swim with whale sharks and it was an incredible experience.

Grade level Highlights for the Month:

PRE-K:

Our Pre-K students have spent the past few weeks learning about and studying trees. They have discussed different types of tree, how they produce oxygen, the different types of leaves they produce, and different types of fruits such as apples and berries. In math, they have been working on identifying the characteristics of the following shapes: squares, triangles, circles, and rectangles. Tying everything together, Mrs. Clarke recently had her students use playdough to make their own "shape tree." This made for a great connection, allowing the students to not only work with and identify various shapes, but also ensure that they could display their spatial reasoning. Images of this activity can be seen below. Along with their shape work, the students recently began learning about measurement. As seen in the picture below, the students received several strips of paper in various lengths in which they had to determine the longest, shortest, and then place them in the correct order. Once finished, they once again tied their learning into the overall unit about trees. Students in Mrs. Houston's class were working on learning to write and pronounce various letters. While visiting the classroom, the students were practicing with the following letters and sounds: "g, w, f, and o."



Ms. Bandy's students during reading time before going to the gym for PE.



Students in Mrs. Houston's room working on letter and sound identification.



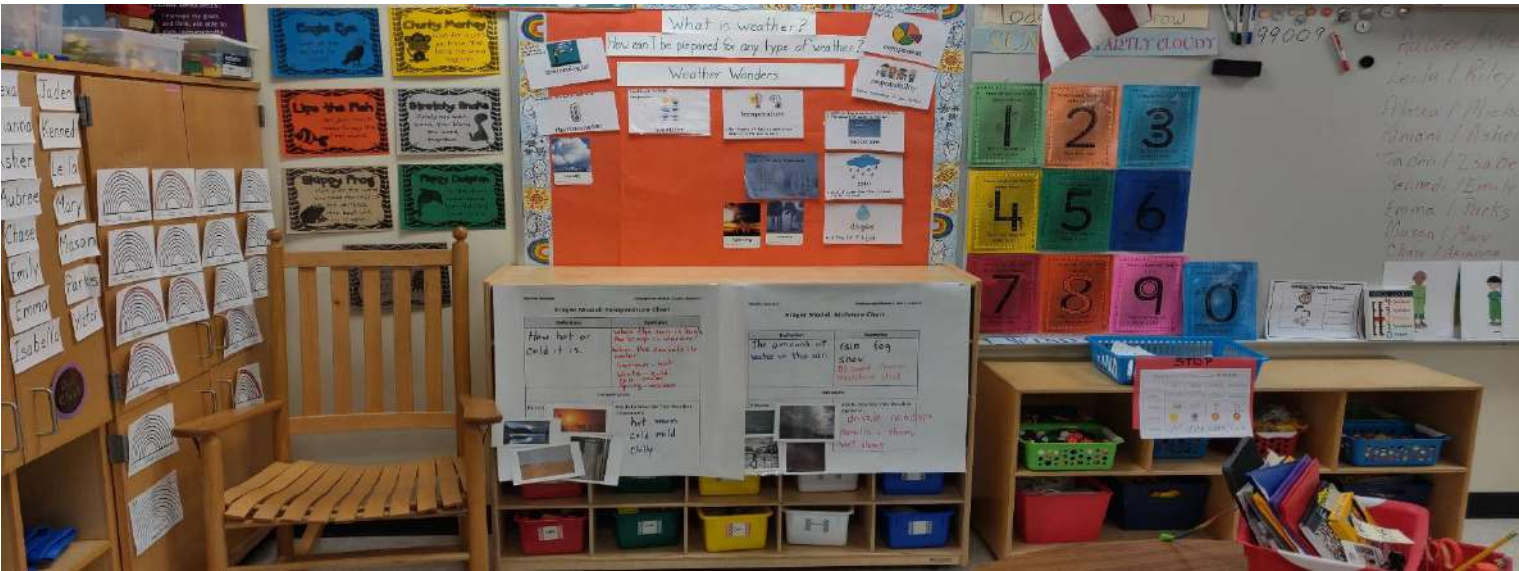
KINDERGARTEN:

During a recent visit to Mrs. Harris' room, the students were deeply engaged in a real-life discussion based on the importance of focusing and listening to others as part of their SEL lesson. In science, the class has been focused on learning about what role the sun plays in terms of warming the air, sea, and land, as well as how it benefits animals and people. With literacy workshop, the students have been involved with numerous activities to reinforce instruction and learning. Students are involved in word work activities, writing, independent reading, fluency work, and individual teacher time to work on skills specific to their independent needs. Recently in math, Mrs. Wronsky made good use of her student's Halloween candy as the class discussed multiple ways to sort the candy. After discussing shapes of the candy and other features, the class settled on grouping the candy by color, which the students successfully completed. As an extension, they counted and recorded the amounts for each color and then completed a brief comparison activity to determine which colors had the most, fewest, and even the same amounts. Mrs. Ybarra's students have been studying and learning about the weather. As seen in the picture below, they have utilized the Frayer Model to help them better understand various weather components. Additionally, they were practicing their "tap it out" strategy to help them deconstruct words and identify individual letters and sounds. In Ms. Carlen's class, the students learn and practice their sight words prior to determining their own readiness level for testing. This is a great way to ensure student accountability for their learning. In math, they have been studying various geometric shapes, with a particular focus on the hexagon. Both Mrs. Harris and Ms. Gump's students were recently observed working on their handwriting and word sorting practice, while in Mrs. Womack's class, the students were working on sorting geometric figures based on their similarities and differences. During the discussion, she even incorporated higher order vocabulary such as "vertices" to describe the corners of the shapes where the two lines connect.

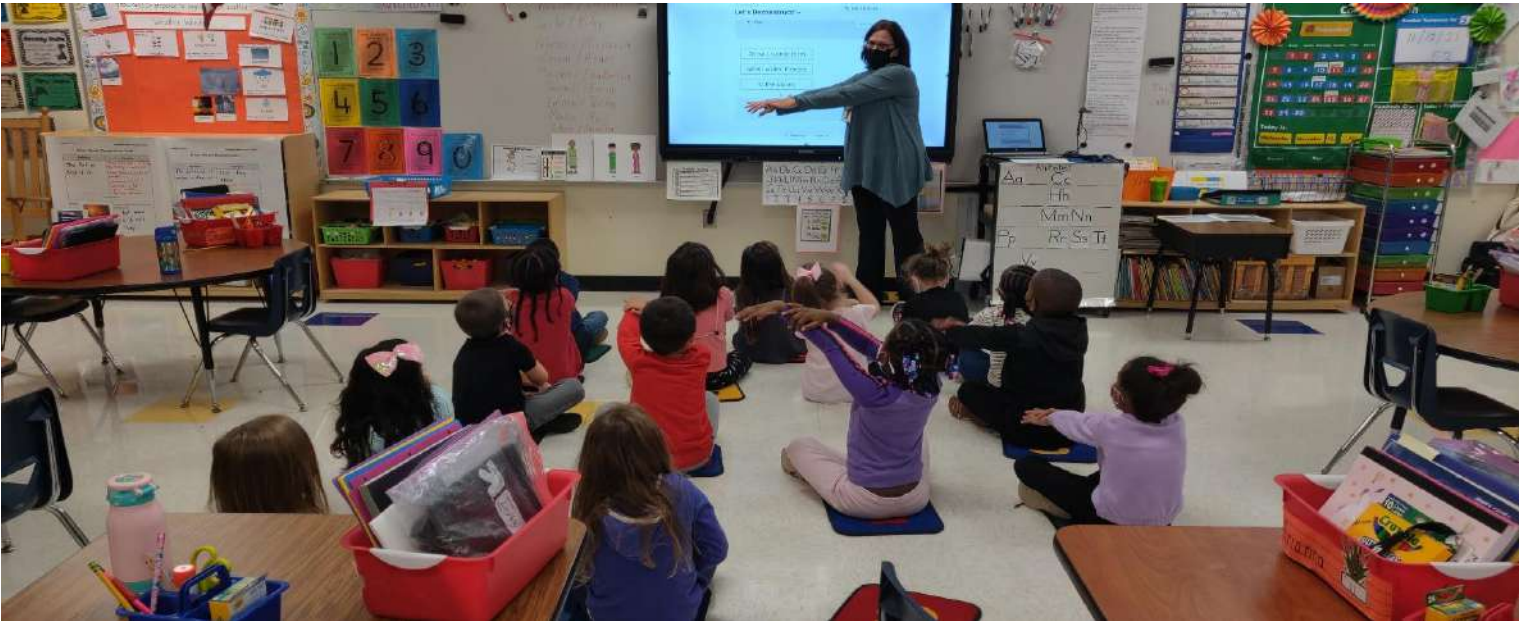
Mrs. Harris' class discussing the importance of good listening skills.



Mrs. Ybarra's Frayer Model Weather Chart.



Students in Ms. Ybarra's classroom practicing their "tap it out" strategy for word deconstruction.



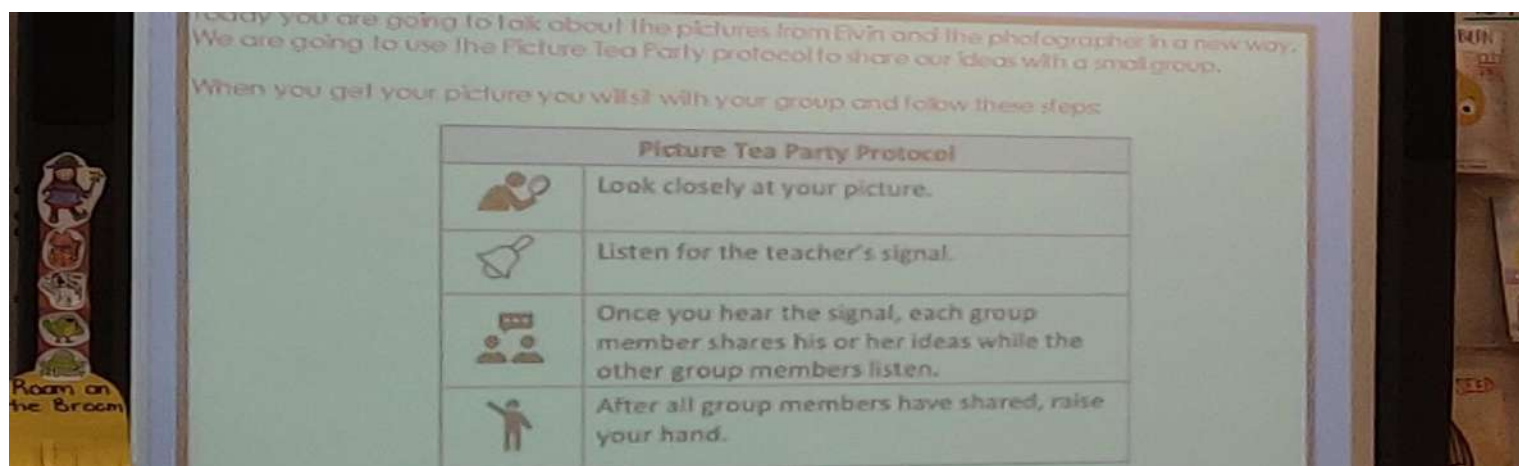
A student in Ms. Carlen's class works on sorting words.



1ST GRADE:

In math, our first grade students have been working with addition and subtraction facts by using the same three numbers in a fact family, as well as finding the unknown in an addition or subtraction problem. Ms. Norris' students have the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of instructional supports during their center time in math. Such activities include: Math Tic Tac Toe, Dreambox, various games, and collaborative partner activities. They have also been learning how to use addition facts to support their answers in subtraction. In science, the students are learning about and recording key information based on the motion of the sun, as well as illustrating how the sun and shadows move across the sky. As a great connection between science and literacy, the students have begun reading a story about a student and his love for the sky. During a recent visit to Ms. Stikeleather's room, the students were discussing various images of the sun and moon, and inferring about why authors write about these topics, as well as what they notice about the images. This led to a great, collaborative discussion among the student groups using the "Picture Tea Party Protocol" as seen below. Students in the class have also been hard at work with practicing and learning their sight words, as well as working collaboratively to compose a sentence. Mrs. Long's students have also been studying about the how the sun and the moon appear in the sky as part of their science unit, while Mrs. Brown's students have been working on writing responses based on specific stories and text. During a recent visit to Ms. Smith's room, the students were working on answering questions based on the beginning, middle, and end of a story as they referenced the text for supporting details. Additionally, they have been learning about the characters, setting, and major events of a story.

Students in first grade are working on retelling stories by including key details and following the correct sequence of events.



Student's in Mrs. Long's classroom during math workshop.



Students completing math workshop activities in Mrs. Long's classroom.



2ND GRADE:

In Mrs. Edmondson's class during science, the students completed Oobleck science experiments. During these experiments, they discussed the fact some objects are solid, while others are liquid. Additionally, they discussed how temperature could change the states of matter from one to another. However, pressure can also cause matter to act differently, such as a solid or a liquid. The students completed a worksheet that proves this by using a "fast finger poke", a "slow finger poke" and comparing the two. Moving slowly gives the cornstarch particles time to move out of the way, therefore acting like a liquid. Non-Newtonian fluid was the vocabulary word the students used to describe this fluid. "A substance that is pressure-dependent and is not a liquid such as water or oil and not a solid like a book or cup." Students in both Mrs. Hjortsberg and Mrs. Edmondson's room were showing off their math skills as they collaborated with their classmates to review, practice, and play multiple addition and subtraction games. During a visit to Mrs. Boardman's class, the students were solving two-digit by two-digit subtraction problems through the use of multiple strategies such as using place value blocks, drawing pictures, incorporating number lines, and even the mental math and the standard algorithm. Ms. McFall's students were identifying different characteristics about the characters in the stories they were reading, while Mrs. Robert's students were involved in a deep discussion regarding the types of tools that Paleontologist's use. During the discussion, they mentioned the following: pick ax, chisel, toothbrush, paper and pencil, and drills.



Name: Americia 11
Date: _____

TESTING OOBLECK

Directions: Using complete sentences, write down what you remember for your results for the following four tests of Oobleck.

Test	Sentence Description	Quick Picture!
FAST FINGER POKE	It was really hard!	OWCH!
SLOW FINGER POKE	really soft.	Wow that is soft!
POUR TEST	my fingers did not pour.	
ROLLING OOBLECK INTO A BALL TEST	I was good at it.	

Students in Ms. McFalls' classroom discussing character traits.



Students in Mrs. Boardman's room utilizing multiple subtraction strategies.

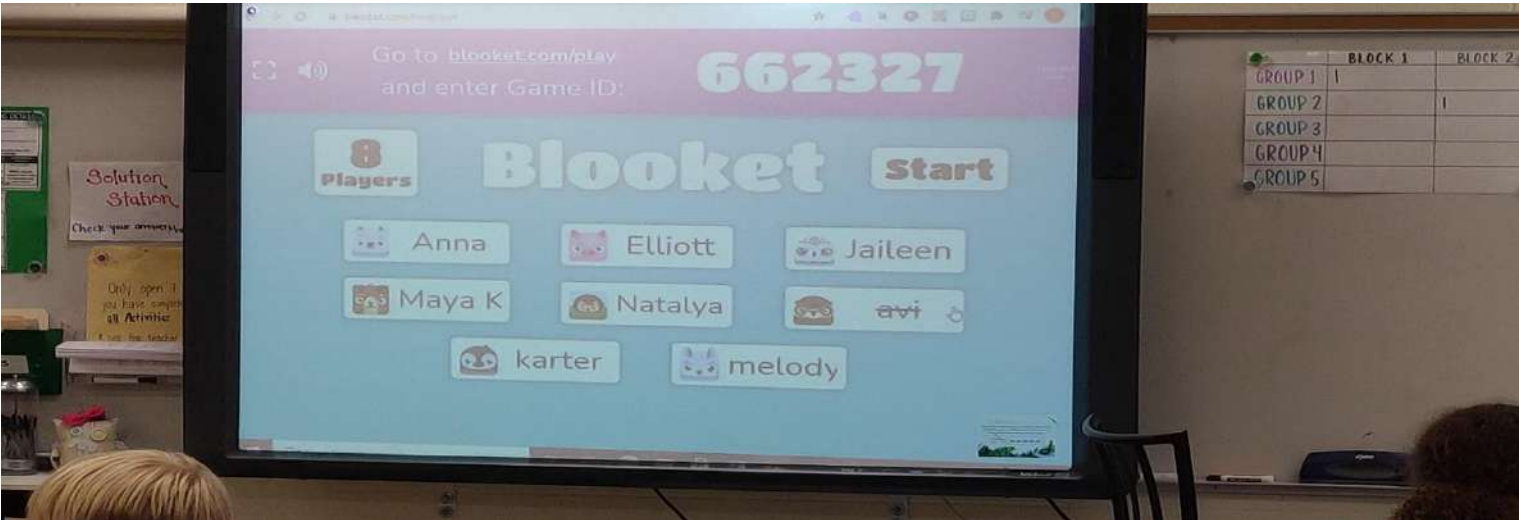
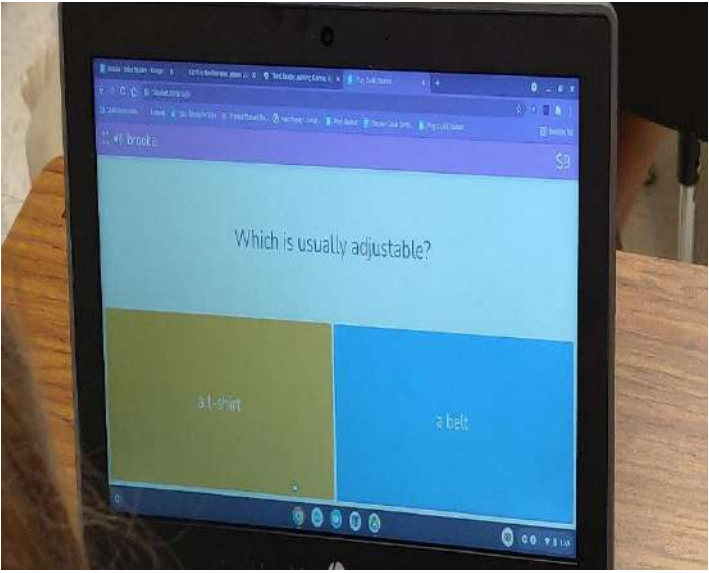
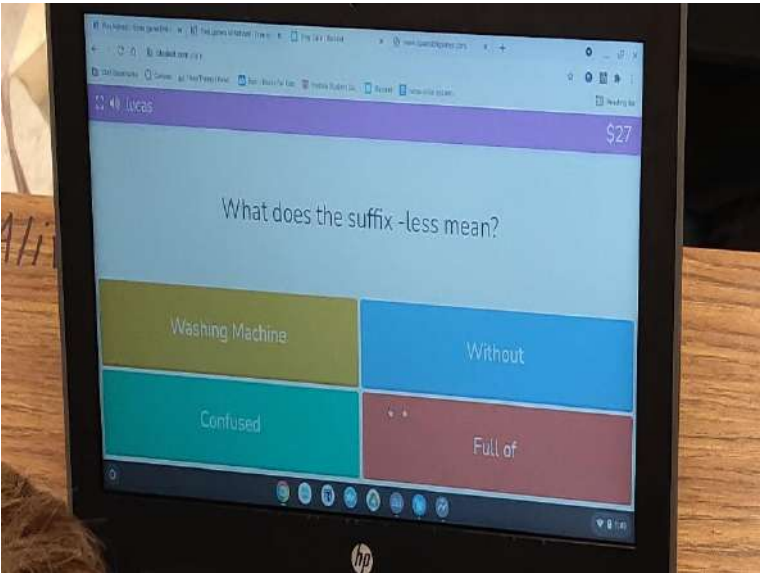


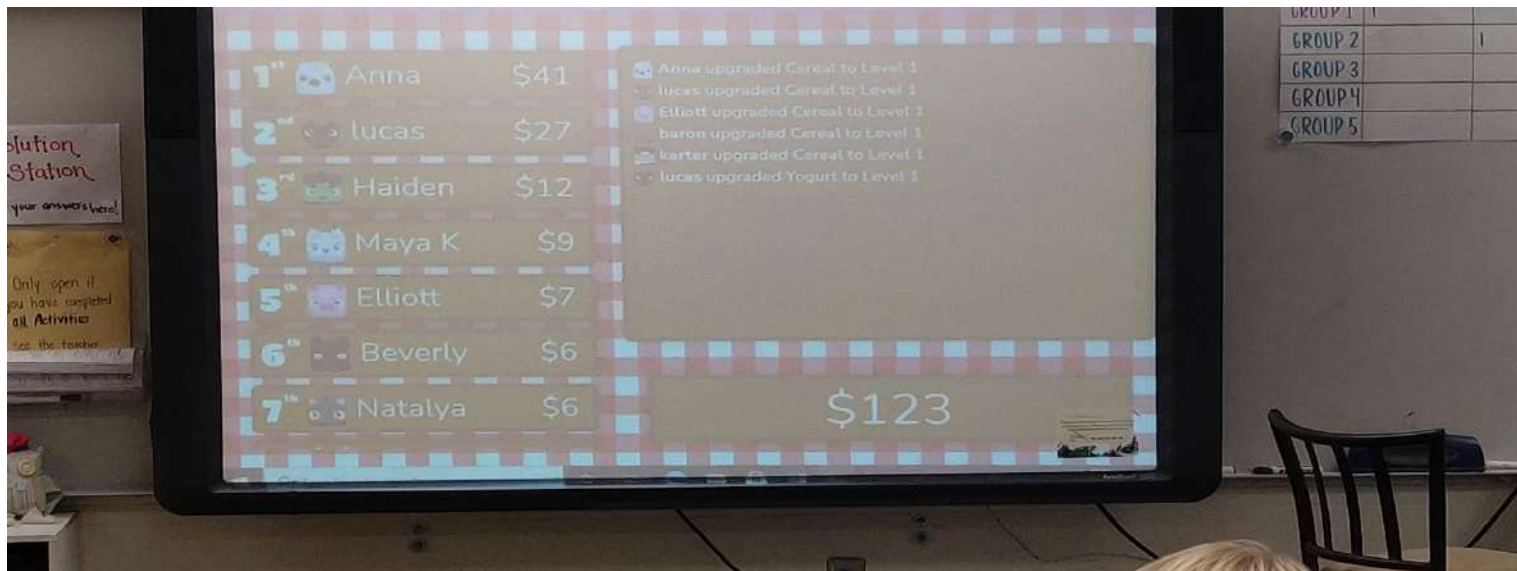
Math board game action in Mrs. Edmondson's room.



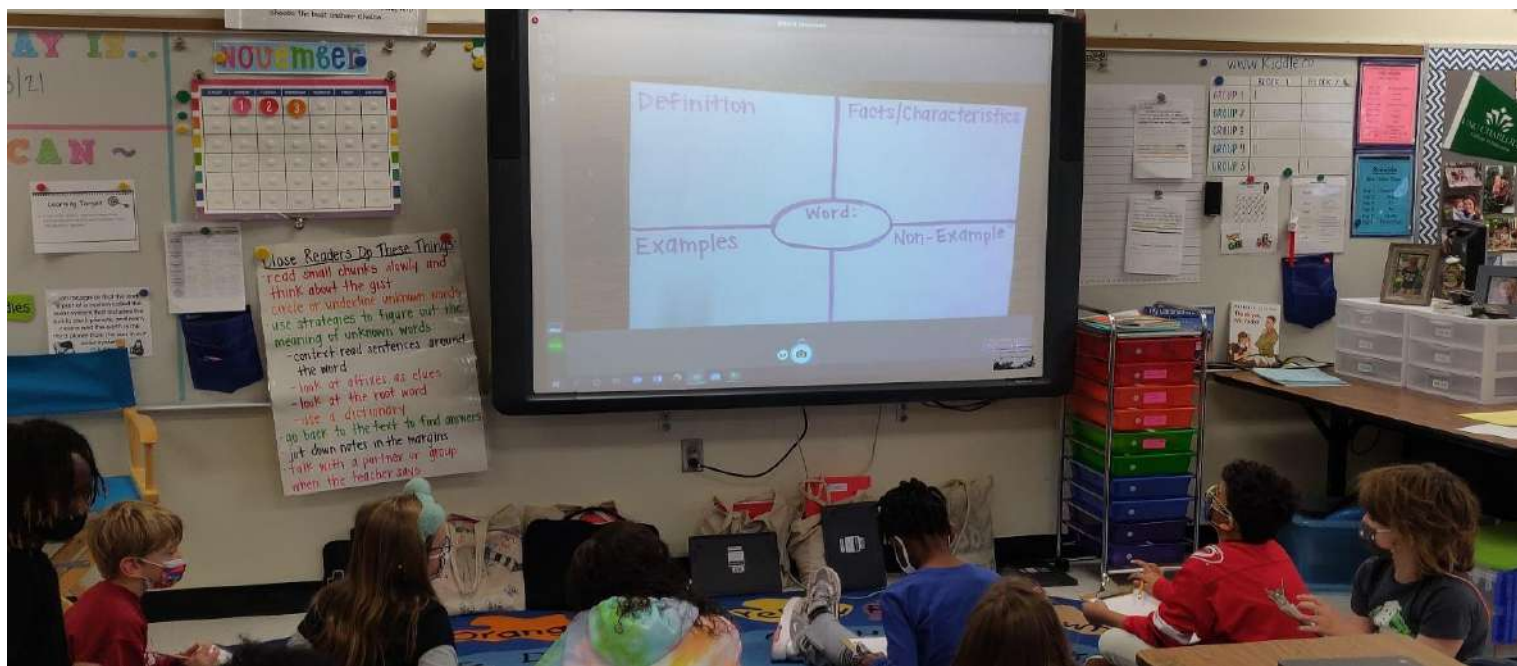
3RD GRADE:

In third grade literacy, our students have been learning about how to determine the “gist” of a Pour quoi Tale, by referring back to the text to support their learning through key facts and information. Additionally, they are learning about the characters, setting, and the sequence of events that make up the Pour quoi. To support their learning, Mrs. Hicks introduced her class to a new strategy to help determine the meaning of new vocabulary terms. As seen in the picture below, the students first identify the new vocabulary term, and then use the Frayer Model to determine its definition by finding examples, non-examples, facts, and characteristics from the text. Through this process, the students are able to create a complete understanding of the new word. Mrs. Fatzinger’s students were working on identifying the various sounds heard, as well as parts of a word based on the vowel and consonant make-up. Additionally, the students used their context clues to determine figurative language. In Ms. Merritt’s math class, the students were using “snap cubes” to determine the area of various regular and irregular shapes. Using their knowledge of the area of a rectangle, the students completed multiplication problems based on the distribution property. Multiplication strategies could also be seen in Ms. Chilton’s classroom as the students were recently collaborating and working with their peers on various multiplication equations. This month in science, our third graders have been learning about and discussing how Earth is part of the overall Solar System, as well as the number of moons and planets that make up the system. The students have discussed, and are now able to identify the major components of the Solar System, as well as Earth’s place in the system and the outer planets. Both Mrs. Hicks and Mrs. Harbin’s students were determining the purpose of a narrative, while additionally reviewing various pre-fix and suffix’s to help determine the meaning of a word. As seen below, Mrs. Harbin’s students were involved in a review game on the App Booket to practice and display their pre-fix and suffix knowledge.

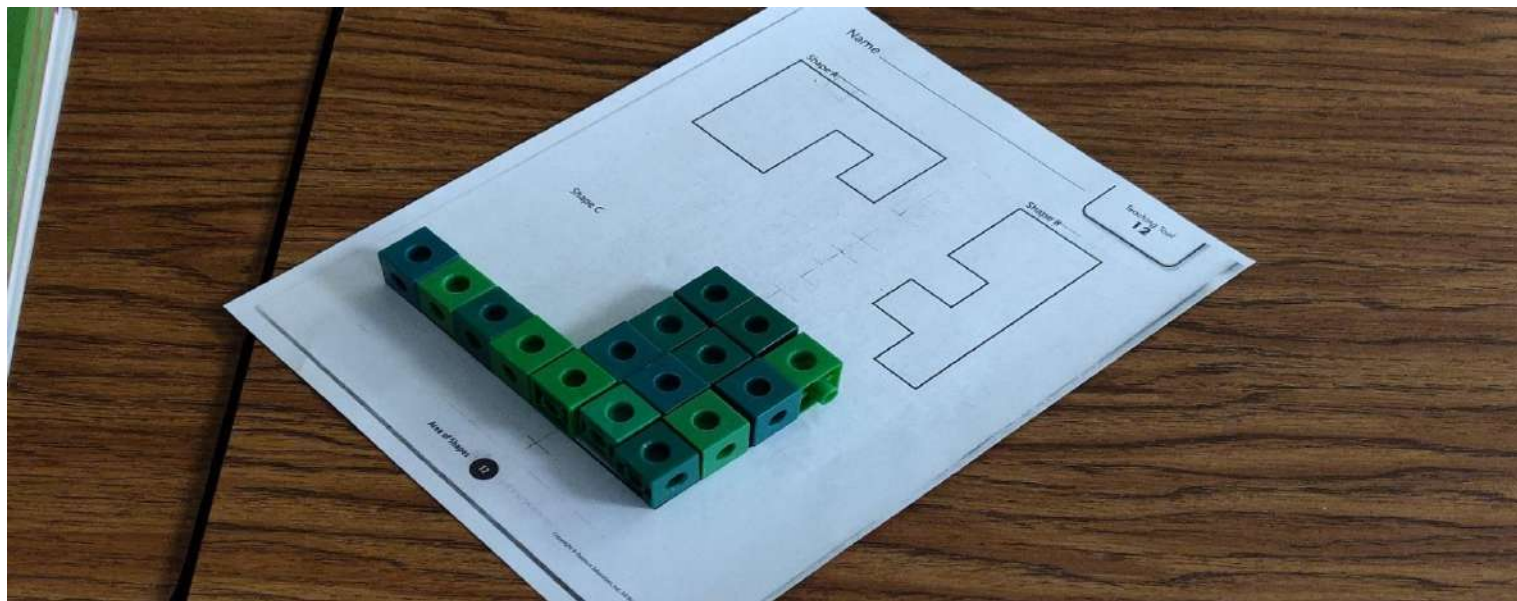




Students in Mrs. Hicks' class using the Frayer Model.



Students working with "snap cubes" in Ms. Merritt's room.



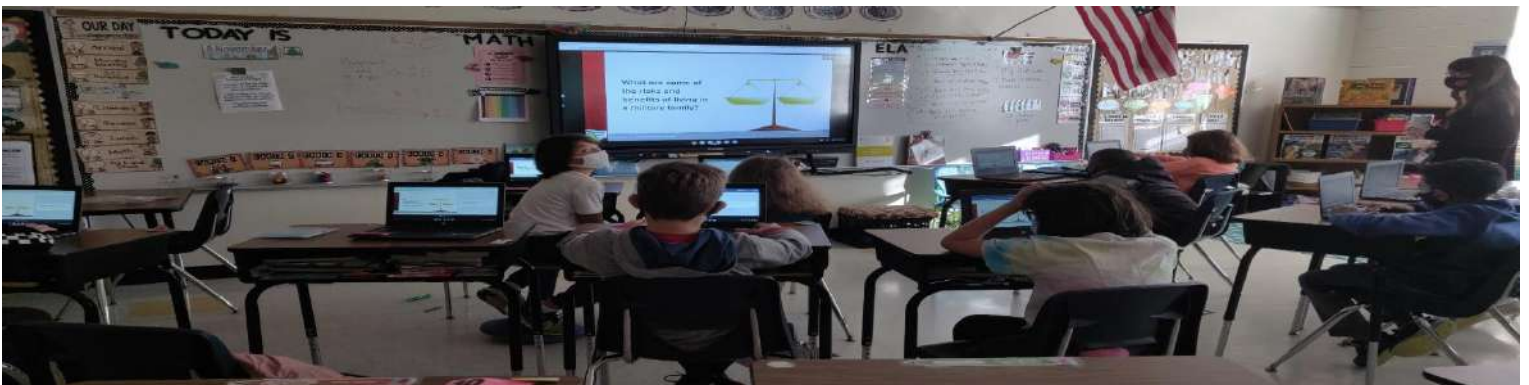
Student's in Ms. Chilton's class during math workshop.



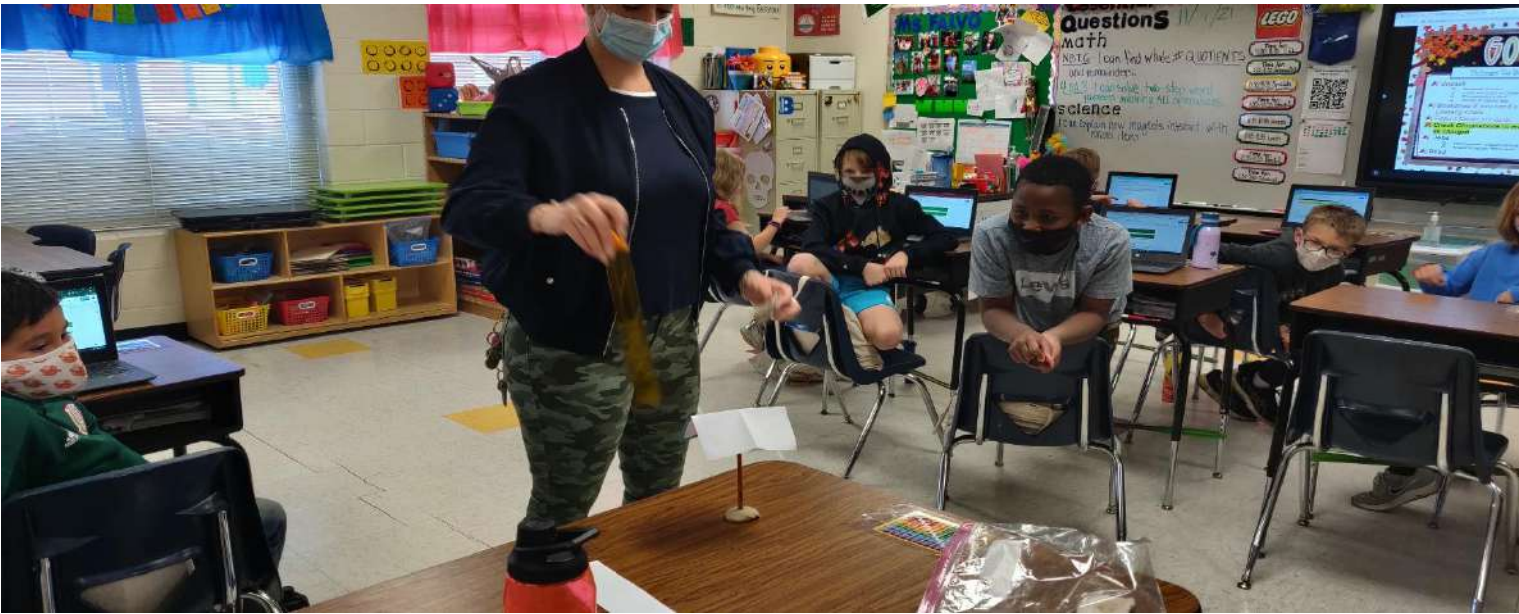
4TH GRADE:

In Ms. Chapman and Mr. Maciag's classrooms, the students recently completed an activity coinciding with Veteran's Day. Using Pear Deck to view a PBS News Hour video, the students watched a presentation in which students from Bahrain spoke and shared information about their lives, and being part of a military family. Following the video, the students recorded their own personal thoughts regarding the benefits and risks of coming from a military family. In listening to the students collaborate and discuss this with each other, it was obvious that several of our students were drawing upon first-hand experiences from a family member who has served our country. Additionally, the students have been working on their "close reading" skills in both of these classrooms as well. "Magic" was taking place during a recent visit to Ms. Falvo's classroom! With their science unit centered on how magnets interact with various objects, Ms. Falvo displayed her "Houdini-like" skills with a recent experiment. Following a discussion in which the students used their prior learning and referencing skills, Ms. Falvo placed a pencil, with the eraser side down, vertically on the desk in a piece of clay. She then placed a piece of paper flat on top of the pencil lead. Rubbing a ruler with a piece of cloth, she created an electrical charge. Then, "magically," she moved the ruler around the paper, causing the paper to spin around and follow the ruler's directions. In math, both Ms. Falvo and Ms. Towner's students were involved in a game of "Stinky Feet." With this game, the students worked collaboratively in small groups or with partners in order to solve multi-step word problems. If they came up with the correct answer, they were able to go to the board and receive a card containing positive or negative points. Once the game was over, the winning team received a prize from the treasure box. Ms. McElhinny's students were researching how various animals utilize their bodies, behaviors, and natural defense mechanisms to protect themselves.

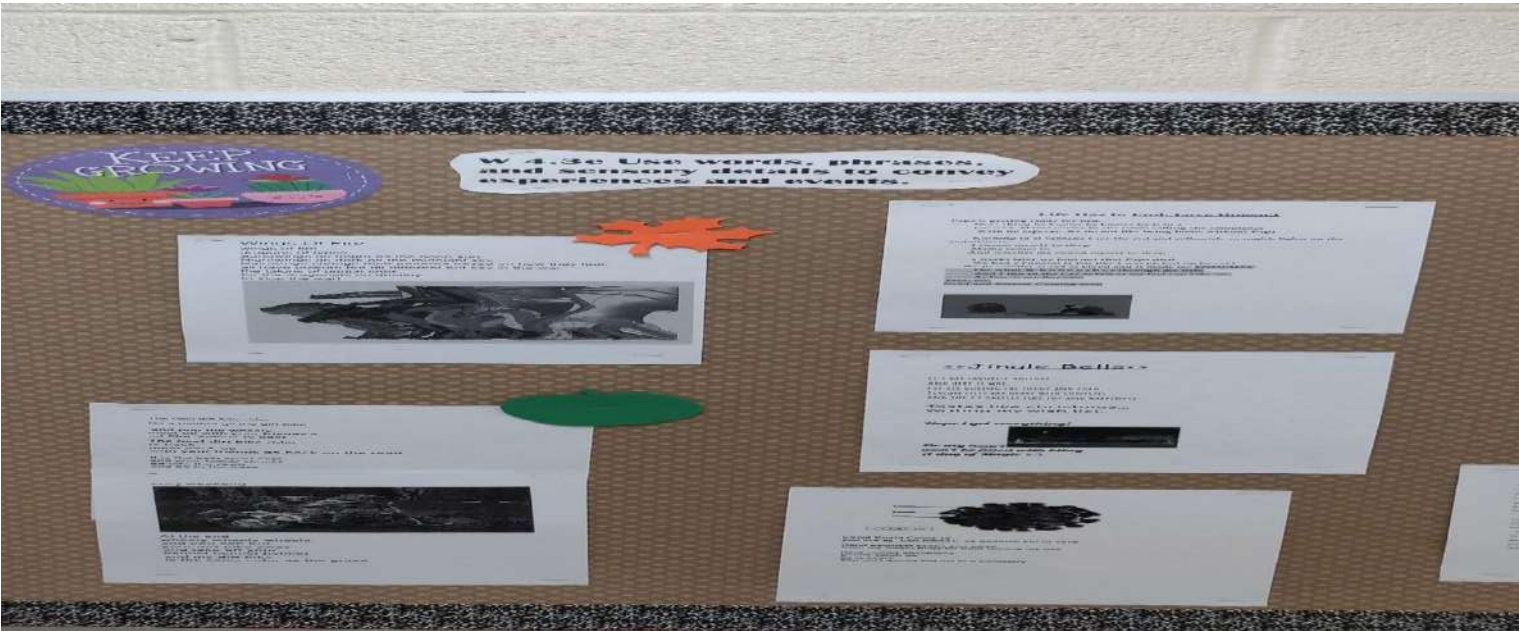
Students in Ms. Chapman's class discussing the benefits and risks of life in a military family.



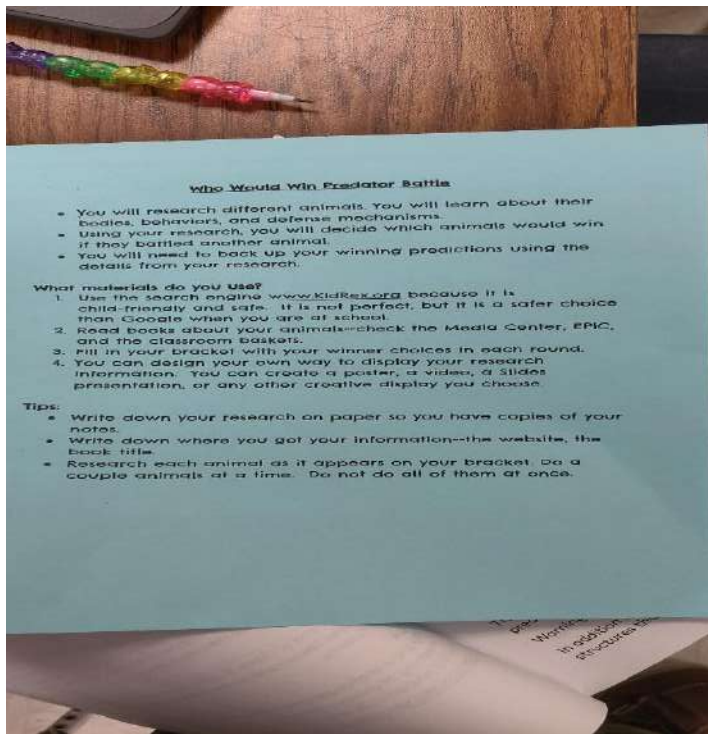
Ms. Falvo's recent science experiment involving static electricity.



Fourth graders in Ms. McElhinny's classroom working on their poetry skills while incorporating various sensory words, phrases, and details.



Students in Ms. McElhinny's class researching the defense Mechanism's that some of our animals utilize for survival.



Students in Ms. Falvo's class participating in their "Stinky Feet" math game.



5TH GRADE:

In fifth grade, Mrs. Huffman's students have been learning about the differences of some of our Native America groups, by comparing and contrasting their similarities and differences. Through the "Jigsaw" activity seen below, the students had the opportunity to become an "expert" on one specific group, and then collaborate with their peers to learn about the additional groups. Mrs. Key's students were using different models to represent multiplication of whole numbers and decimals, as well as multiplying decimal numbers by another decimal number. In Mrs. Wilson's class, the students were involved in a great discussion about how many of our beliefs and values came to be established in America. They have also been discussing various religions and traditions associated with the United States, and how the Puritans originally came to the U.S. from England in order to pursue their Freedom of religion. The students discussed how many of these have changed over time, while others have stood firm. Mrs. Wilson did a great job of creating a strong reference for her students as she discussed how the roots of a tree often spread out and go much deeper than we can see. With this, she compared how many of our nation's beliefs and values are deeply "rooted" as well. Taking it to the next level, the students had a great discussion on how American art work contributes to our values and traditions. Mrs. Terry's class has been discussing and learning about personal financing and budgets. Below are some images from their Thanksgiving budget lesson. In science, both Mrs. Key and Mrs. Huffman's students have been learning about the relationship between geography and weather. As a culminating activity, the students are beginning to work on their Climatic Zone Research Table Project. With this project, the students had the opportunity to choose between the following Climate Zones: Tropical, Continental, Temperate, Polar, and Dry. During their research, they are learning about the location, climate, average temperatures, precipitation, and seasonal changes of their Climate Zone. Additionally, they are looking at the different types of plant and animal life associated with their climate.

The "Jigsaw" activity in Mrs. Huffman's room.

Jigsaw Activity

1. Divide students into four groups (by table group).
 - a. Group 1: Iroquois
 - b. Group 2: Cherokee
 - c. Group 3: Algonquian
 - d. Group 4: Powhatan
2. Each group will read about their assigned Native American group.
3. As a team, answer the questions for "Lesson 1" comparing their Native American group with our government.

Pass out the "Native American" reading to each student. Students can put reading into their SS folders when finished.

10/2
11/1
11/3

Thanksgiving Budgets by Mrs. Terry's class.

Thanksgiving Budget Challenge

I can learn about personal budgeting methods. - 5.E.2

Thanksgiving Budget Challenge-Planning

Team Name: Table 1 Class 4, 5, 6

The Yummy Food Market:			Vestal's Local Grocery Store:			The Everything Organic Market:		
Item	Quantity	Amount	Item	Quantity	Amount	Item	Quantity	Amount
Yummy Food	1 lb.	2.19	Canned Beans	2	3.07	Potatoes	1 bag	5.00
Yummy Food	2 lb.	6.00	Swimming	10 box	3.00	Pumpkin & Squash	5 lb	5.00
Yummy Food	1 lb.	3.00	Chips	1	4.25	Chips	5 lb	5.00
Yummy Food	4 lb.	1.56						
Yummy Food	1 pack	2.00						
Coupons:			Coupons:			Coupons:		
Total Spent: 29.38			Total Spent: 11.07			Total Spent: 13.00		
Total Left Over:			Total Left Over:			Total Left Over:		

Thanksgiving Budget Challenge-Planning

Team Name: Turkey Falls

The Yummy Food Market:			Vestal's Local Grocery Store:			The Everything Organic Market:		
Item	Quantity	Amount	Item	Quantity	Amount	Item	Quantity	Amount
Yummy Food	1	5.21.75	2L Soda	2	1.48	Ve. Beans	2	3.00
Yummy Food	1	13.60	Canned Corn	2	3.00	Turkey	12	86.00
Yummy Food	3	15.67	Chips	1	12.00			
Yummy Food	2	14.99						
Yummy Food	2	14.95						
Coupons:			Coupons:			Coupons:		
Total Spent: 64.78			Total Spent: 15.98			Total Spent: 92.00		
Total Left Over:			Total Left Over:			Total Left Over:		

Thanksgiving Budget Challenge-Planning

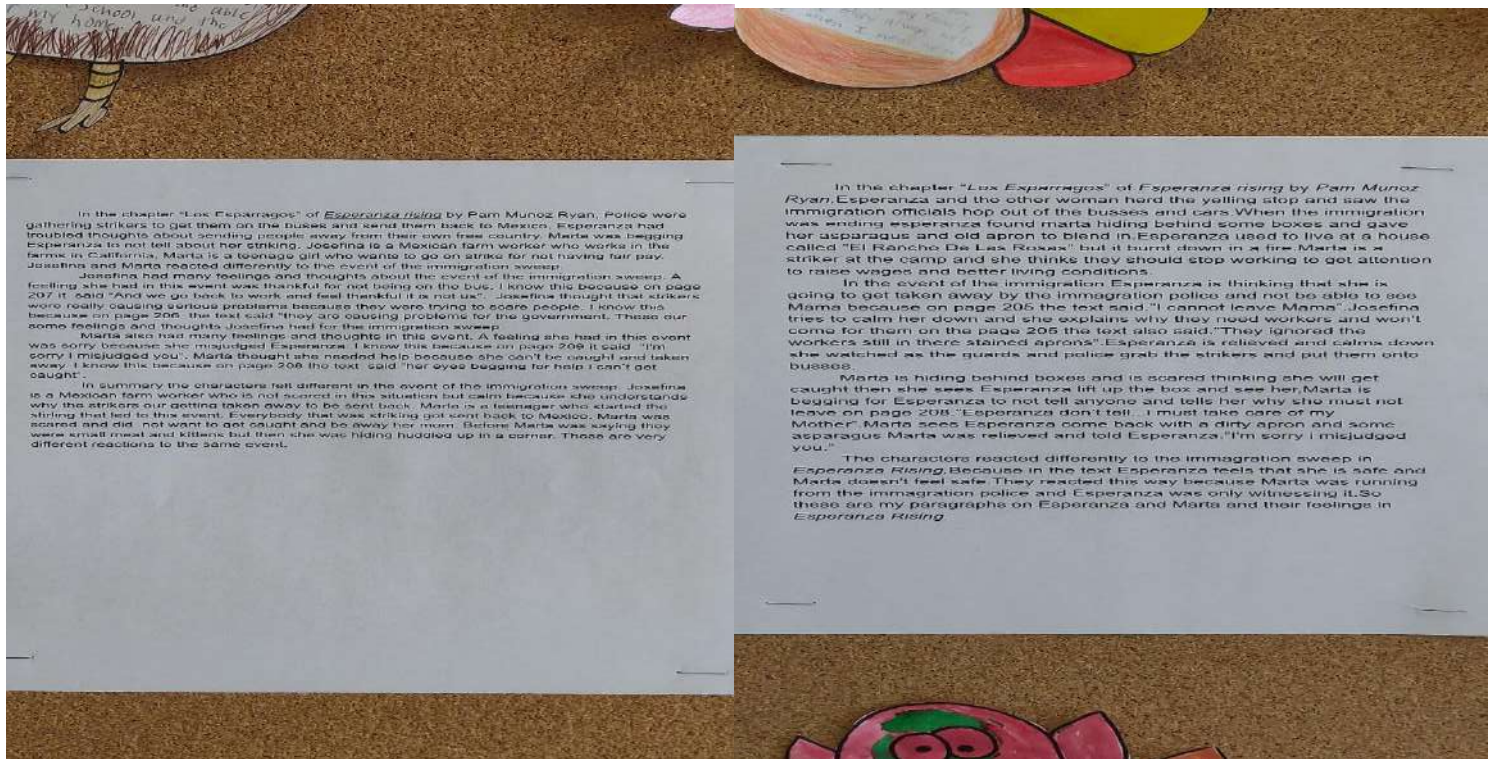
Team Name: Don't Know a Turkey

The Yummy Food Market:			Vestal's Local Grocery Store:			The Everything Organic Market:		
Item	Quantity	Amount	Item	Quantity	Amount	Item	Quantity	Amount
Yummy Food	1	5.21.75	2L Soda	2	1.48	Ve. Beans	2	3.00
Yummy Food	1	13.60	Canned Corn	2	3.00	Turkey	12	86.00
Yummy Food	3	15.67	Chips	1	12.00			
Yummy Food	2	14.99						
Yummy Food	2	14.95						
Coupons:			Coupons:			Coupons:		
Total Spent: 64.78			Total Spent: 15.98			Total Spent: 92.00		
Total Left Over:			Total Left Over:			Total Left Over:		

Student researching Climate Zones.



Using evidence from the text to support how the character reacts to different events in the story.



SPECIAL AREA:

In Mr. Holden's PE class, our K-2nd grade students have been using scooters to practice movement concepts while being safe. In 3rd-5th grade, the students have been learning about and working on their volleyball skills. Students have been perfecting their forearm passes and working in unison as a team. Below are some images from a recent class visit in Mr. Holden's gym. In Mrs. Craddock's music classes, the students often incorporate the Quaver program as part of their learning and assessment. As seen in the pictures below, the students are completing assessment activities based on meter, measurement, types of musical notes, and melody. During a recent visit to the media center, our Kindergarten students were working "thankful feathers," identifying all of the things they are thankful for. Our kindergarten students have been learning about line, shape, color, and space in art based on their recent Weather and Emotions project. Additionally, they have been discussing the horizon line and background, as well as landscapes and portraits.

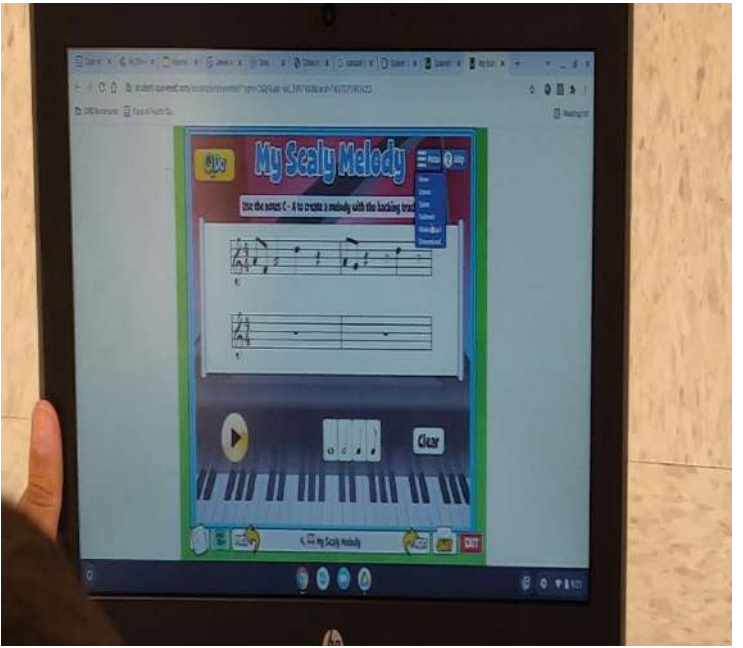
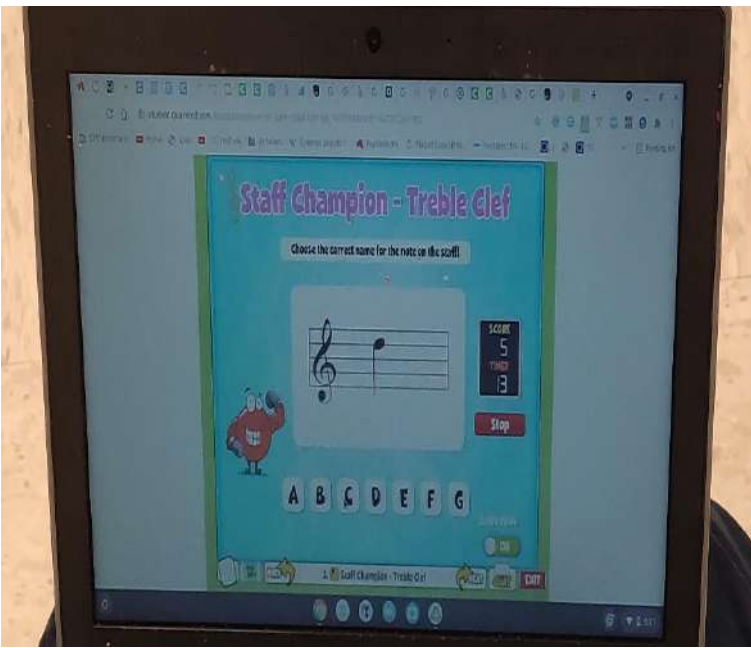
Students completing their Weather and Emotion drawings in art class.



Students in the media center working on their “thankful Leaves.”



Student using Quaver in music class.



Volleyball action in the gym.



Monthly Principal Award Art Winners.





UPCOMING NOVEMBER EVENTS:

- 12/2-Character breakfast 7:00
- 12/3-School Spirit Day-Winter Shirts and Socks
- 12/6-12/10 Barnette Holiday Shop
- 12/8-Early Release Day, Report Cards
- 12/17-School Spirit Day-Ugly Sweater Day
- 12/20-Optional Teacher Workday-No School for Students
- 12/21-1/3-Winter Break
- 1/4- Return from Winter Break