

In collaboration with the Lyle School District

## **SPRING ACTIVITIES**

Our REACH group has done several exciting science experiments this spring. In March, we did the Sugar Crystal project. Students measured their ingredients to make their own climbing sugar crystals. We learned that the measurements and temperatures must be followed precisely in order to successfully turn tiny grains of sugar into an "iceberg" chunk of crystal. How long it takes for sugar crystals to form depends on how saturated the sugar/water solution is. Another fun experiment was the Mento Volcano activity. The students watched a video that explained how the tiny bumps on the surface of the Mentos gives soda's carbon dioxide (the fizz) a place to stick. As more and more bubbles form and expand, a foam is formed. With so much pressure being squeezed out of the bottle top, a large geyser funnels out of the bottle high into the air. I recommend recreating this experiment at home with your kids,

just make sure to stand back and do it outside! Our last STEM activity was a lesson on the center of gravity in which the students put a ball of clay into a blown-up balloon and then watched in surprise as the balloon acted in an unexpected manner when thrown in the air. The center of gravity created by the clay turned a regular balloon into a "wobble ball."

## **GRANT PARTNERS**

Fort Vancouver Regional Library System provided a STEM kit and we did great science experiment on the Closed-Circuit Light Bulb. Students used copper ribbon, an LED light bulb, tape, and a battery to create a closed circuit and light up the bulb. Thank you, Naomi!

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

We are busily preparing for the REACH summer program. We have many exciting events planned, even a few field trips! We will be joining our partner Gorge Ecology Outdoors for a fun and educational day at Horsethief Lake. We will be seeing many performances by comedians, magicians, and jugglers. The Reptile Man will be sharing his snakes and lizards with us, and we will be doing several art projects. The summer REACH program will rock!





# Student Highlight DAHLYA RAINS (4TH GRADE)

### What is your favorite thing about REACH?

"My favorite thing is the different games we play such as Picture, Picture, and vocabulary Hangman. I really liked Bella's Mystery Deck and the art project. My favorite art project was the acorn drawing. I also enjoy getting together with my friends after school. I liked doing extra reading support after school with Mrs. Ullom."

What is something fun you did at REACH recently? "I liked doing the nutritional activity with Abby and the teenagers from 4H."

### What have you learned recently?

"I learned about the color wheel and mixing colors during the acorn activity. I knew you could mix colors, but I didn't know how many shades of brown you can make. If you add a drop of another color, it completely changes the shade."

