



REACH is a program of
Educational Service District 112

Spring 2023

NEWSLETTER



RELATIONSHIPS
ENRICHMENT
ACADEMICS
COMMUNITY
HOMEWORK

Dallesport



In collaboration with the Lyle School District

ACTIVITIES

One of our favorite REACH routines & group activities these past few months has been weekly storytime. Over the past few months, we read through the entire Peter Pan story, captivating students weekly with tales of mermaids, pirates, lost boys, and Neverland. Every Thursday, students would gather their personal crafting and STEM supplies, get situated in a cozy corner, work silently on their projects, and exercise their imagination while listening to the story. The last couple of chapters were met with sadness as the story came to a close; however, we ended by celebrating the completion of such a long saga by watching the newly released Disney rendition, Peter & Wendy.

Additionally, over the past few weeks, REACH staff have been instructing students how to sew. Inspired by students creating their own "stuffies" out of paper, tissue, & staples, staff have been advancing student abilities by teaching them how to work with fabric, handle a needle & thread, and sow their very own designs.

Last, but certainly not least, we cooked pancakes! Students used their measurement and math skills to follow a detailed recipe to create delicious pancakes that were devoured in a flash~ Cooking has been a great way for students to become familiar with fractions and various measuring techniques.

GRANT PARTNERS

While it was still dark & cold out, Dallesport REACH collaborated with our grant partners at Arts in Education of the Gorge to develop an 8-week series that centered around uplifting the inner uniqueness of each student. Paralleling the guided journey in the Millu Uniqueverse activity packet, artists came in once a week to accentuate each adventure checkpoint with intentional talking points and special projects. Students practiced performance skills, created power objects, artistically expressed their gratitude, and designed their very own superhero avatars.


As the season shifted and light returned, our partners at Gorge Ecology Outdoors (GEO) supported Dallesport REACH students to get outside. GEO took the group hiking on the trails adjacent to the school, teaching them proper trail etiquette and risk management. On a separate occasion, they brought a fleet of bicycles and taught students how to safely navigate on two wheels.



Students created
their own Stuffies



Learning
proper trail etiquette.



In honor of Asian Pacific Islander awareness month, our partners at Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries helped us bring Hula Aloha to Dallesport REACH, sharing Hawaiian culture, dance, story, and language.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Over the past few months, we were blessed by the number of community members visiting our program. REACH students were excited to spend a few weeks playing & practicing basketball with Coach Miguel from SWISH basketball, allowing some of our more kinesthetic students an outlet to run, jump, and shoot. Laurie from Trout Unlimited shared photos & stories of kayaking to the mouth of the Columbia River, later bringing a group of volunteers to help students pole cast into hula-hoops, read topographic maps, and identify the many macroinvertebrates found in healthy streams. Deputy Corning energetically engaged students in "run, hide, fight" tactics, while Harley from 4-H helped students plant their own sprout trays, and Sheila from KLASAC shared wellness tips around nutrition, rest, and exercise. To round it off, with support from Sue with Youth Employment Services, Dallesport REACH was able to hire a high school student intern who became an instant hit by bridging the age gap and providing some much appreciated mentorship support.

FIELD TRIPS

We were blessed by a gracious invitation from one of our REACH families this spring, welcoming a group of students to their family farm for our very first off site field trip. Students got to feed rabbits & goats, run around the meadow and soak in the abundance of wildflowers. Another parent chaperone joined us and stepped up as group photographer, seizing the opportunity to capture some gorgeous shots of students surrounded by nature. Thank you Jazmin, Kiva, & Star!

PARENT EVENTS

This spring, Dallesport REACH joined forces with multiple entities to pursue parent engagement collaboratively. March drew the largest crowd over St. Patrick's Day bingo with Lyle School District & Title I services. In April, Sharon from Career Connects SW helped us host a Family STEM night. And finally, REACH was honored to be involved in Art in the Park, celebrating the accomplishments of our young artists and musicians as they performed for their families at the Lyle Activity Center.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Although the school year is coming to a close, it feels like another chapter is just about to begin! Dallesport REACH is partnering with Lyle School District to provide summer school programming this year, leveraging our community contacts in order to bring special artists & guest performers for all to enjoy. GEO & Trout Unlimited are supporting our outdoor-based field trips, while we also plan to head into the big city to visit OMSI in Portland.



Students learning to walk a slackline.



Students enjoying one of our many field trips.



Students learning to identify wildflower species.

Soon thereafter, Dallesport REACH will be teaming up with our relatives from Wishram REACH to visit the Bonneville Dam & Portland Art Museum. CRITFC will cater part of our experience on the river.

Our final week of Summer REACH will be familial, taking a small group of dedicated Dallesport REACH students to nearby destinations to relax, reflect, and savor our final moments of connection before taking rest for the remainder of summer.



Students enjoying a bike ride.



Field trip fun!

Student Highlight

KYLEE MUSCHAWECK (2ND GRADE)

What is your favorite thing about REACH?

"That we get to hang out with our friends and have fun."

What is something fun you did at REACH recently?

"Stuffies."

What have you learned recently?

"That I don't have to be running all the time and I can be in my own pace."

Quote:

"I am happy & that's me!."

