



REACH is a program of Educational Service District 112

Spring 2019-20

NEWSLETTER



RELATIONSHIPS
ENRICHMENT
ACADEMICS
COMMUNITY
HOMEWORK

Dallespost

In collaboration with the Lyle School District

SPRING ACTIVITIES

Dallesport Elementary REACH students enjoyed several "building systems days" this spring. Students used their engineering skills with several building systems such as Q-Ba-Maze, Gears, Gears, Gears, Gravity Maze and everybody's favorite, Legos. Q-Ba-Maze is a system of colorful cubes that interlock to form a marble maze, which kids can configure in geometric patterns or just rambling, fun-to-watch trails. Students worked in pairs to plan and create their own unique mazes. The kids also challenged each other with Staxis. Staxis is a construction game requiring the players to build with a stack of sticks all while planning, balancing and risking the structure crashing down! It is a lesson in patience as well as engineering.

As the REACH program transitioned into remote learning, we were happy to be able to meet via Zoom meetings. During these weeks, we studied ecosystems, strange sea creatures and sharks. We also studied volcanoes to acknowledge the 40th anniversary of the Mt. St. Helens eruption. We did many math puzzles and studied optical illusions (the brain's way of being tricked into making sense of pictures and patterns). Students studied the owl's digestive system and finished the unit by dissecting owl pellets donated by Mrs. Lopez. To finish up the REACH year, the kids made cloud foam, a soft version of the ever-popular slime.



GRANT PARTNERS

During the National Heart Health Month of February, Debi Budnick of Skyline Hospital visited, and she taught us about heart healthy habits. Debi brought activities and interesting hands-on tools such as a stethoscope, so kids could listen to their resting heart rates and their heart rate after exercising. Students learned about the anatomy of the heart and the cardiovascular system. They also discussed healthy foods and then baked some heart-healthy oatmeal muffins to eat as a snack at REACH. They were able to make enough to take home to share with families.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

At the end of January, Deputy Ben Corning of the Klickitat County Sheriff's Department came in to talk to the kids about safety issues, particularly lockdown situations. We have invited Deputy Corning to REACH before to help promote positive relations between youth and law enforcement. He always shares plenty of information in a fun, age-appropriate way. It doesn't hurt that he always shows up with a bag or two of candy that he generously shares! We are happy to announce that the KCSD has now become an official REACH grant partner.





FIELD TRIPS

Students who achieved the REACH grant goal of attending the program for 30 days were rewarded with a field trip to Portland to see a Harlem Globetrotters game. The students discussed in advanced how to be good, respectful members of the audience. They also used their math skills to figure out costs for transportation, food and tickets. It was an exciting trip and, as always, the Globetrotters antics were hilarious and entertaining.

PARENT EVENTS

The parents were involved in celebrating their 30-day students at the Harlem Globetrotters game.

UPCOMING EVENTS

This year, the summer program will look quite different from last year and all previous years. We will be running the program remotely and delivering snacks for the district, while at the same time delivering supplies and materials to students at their homes or bus stops. We have some fun art and reading projects planned. We will also be doing some video conferencing via Zoom to touch-base with students and give them the opportunity to see each other.



Student Highlight

BRITTANY GRANADOS (3RD GRADE)

What is your favorite thing about REACH?

"I like that we do art projects and cooking. I like playing the educational games and I also love playing outside with my REACH friends."

What is something fun you did at REACH recently?

"We made rubber band bracelets and painted kindness rocks."

What have you learned recently?

"We learned to cook by practicing reading a recipe and following it.

We also learned about measurements and kitchen safety."

