



# Newsletter

FALL 2025 - WINTER 2026

## OUR VISION

The STREAM committee is dedicated to developing a program that is inquiry based and that will develop students into confident, self-directed learners. In a safe and supportive environment our students will be engaged in group problem solving with applicable solutions that develops independent thinking while fostering collaboration. Students will have opportunities to gain real world experience through community partnerships and internships. Our goal is to combine science, technology, research, engineering, art, and mathematics to prepare our students to be contributing members of the 21st century work force.

## STREAM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

This newsletter was created  
by the  
STREAM Committee Members:

Kayleigh Bowles, KLR  
Patti Andersen, Chase  
Cynthia Grant, KLR  
Michele Prestianni, KLR  
Thomas Fassell, MHS

# What's STREAMing at....

Cooke Elementary School



Mr. Fountain's second grade class used a telescope to look at the sun using a solar lens.



# What's STREAMing at....

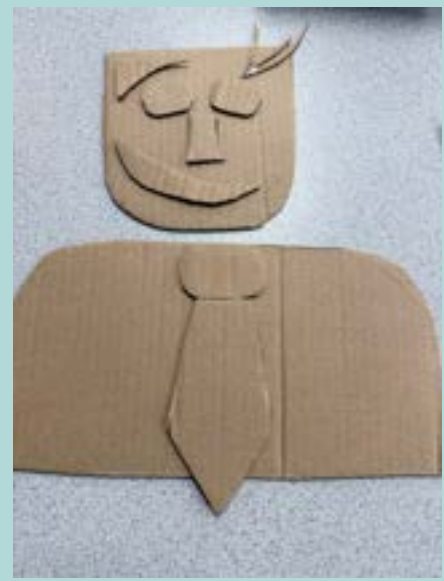
Chase Elementary School

## Talking Heads!

After reading *Crazy Hair Day* by Barney Saltzberg, students used their imagination and crafting skills to create cardboard sculpture heads. They later used the Chatter Pix app to bring their sculptures to life. Each one explained how a friend could help them out of a tough or embarrassing situation.

This project encouraged creativity using recycled materials, increased skills with technology and helped to develop students sense of empathy.







# Thumpin' Bumpin' Runaway Pumpkin!

Inspired by the book *Runaway Pumpkin* by Kevin Lewis, students worked together to build pumpkin stoppers using a mix of materials. They tested their creations by rolling pumpkins down a ramp. When they stopped the small pumpkin, they moved on to the medium and finally the largest. They really squashed this challenge!





# STREAM Night

## Cardboard Arcade

Students were challenged to build working arcade games using mostly recycled materials. They stepped up to the challenge and created a variety of arcade classics and some new exciting games.

A great time was had by all as they bounced around and played each game!







# A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS!

What is your prediction? Which will clean pennies best, Water and dish soap, vinegar and salt, baking soda and vinegar?

The students in Mrs. Kolaitis' kindergarten class made their predictions, conducted experiments and learned...

We aren't going to tell you! Give it a try!





# What's STREAMing at....

## KLR Elementary School

**BLACK HOLE FUN!!!**: Mrs. Snow's Third Grade Class experimented with balloons and tin foil to demonstrate how giant dying stars explode and become BLACK HOLES! The students covered their balloon in tin foil and then popped the balloon. All that was left was a shell of tin foil which the students collapsed into a tiny ball. This simulated the exploding star and the leftover black hole's "singularity", an infinitely small point of mass with immense gravity where nothing, not even light can escape from it! Then the children used silly putty to emulate "spaghettification," a real scientific word to describe an object being stretched like a piece of spaghetti when it is sucked into a black hole! The students had an OUT OF THIS WORLD ADVENTURE learning about BLACK HOLES!



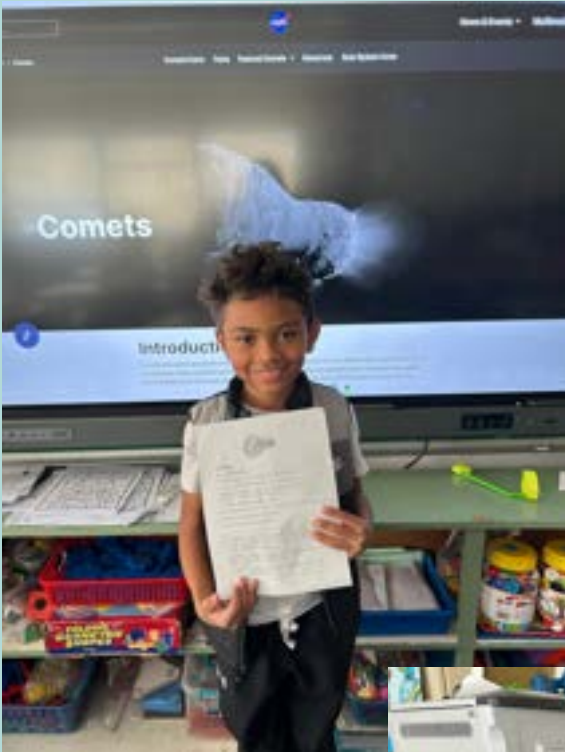


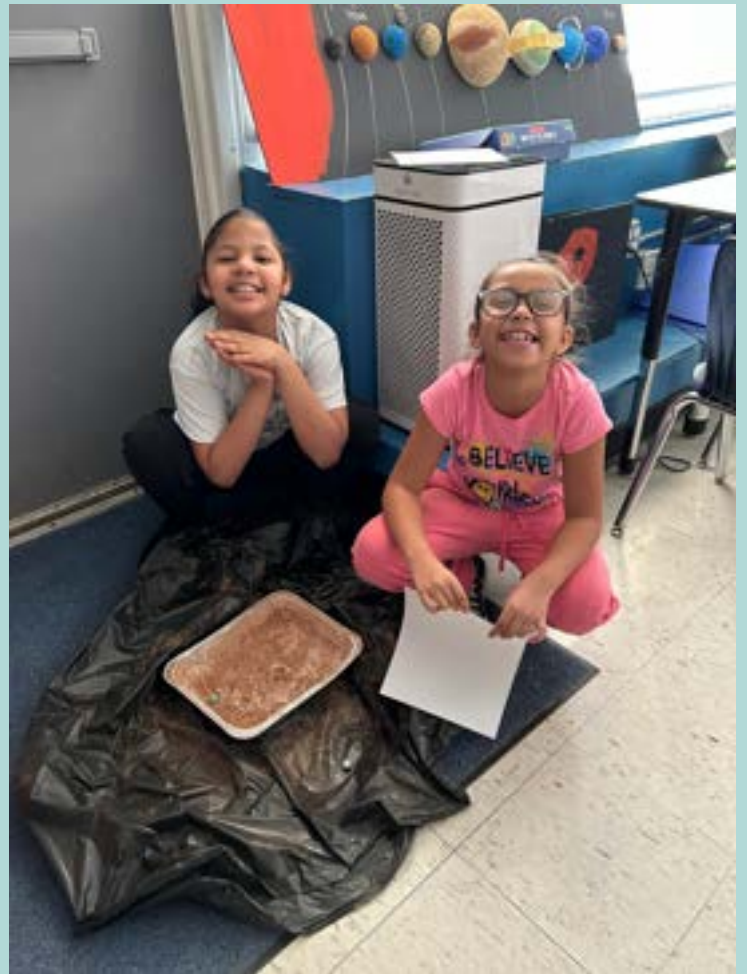


**Third Grade's Moon Adventures:** Mrs. Snow's Third Grade had a DELICIOUS, good time learning about the phases of the moon! The students learned about how the moon changes over a month by creating each of the eight phases using cookies. This edible astronomy made learning about the Moon SWEET!

Then, the students studied the moon's surface with its craters and rays. Using flour, sprinkles, and cocoa, the students recreated the Moon's surface. Next, they took "asteroids" or space rocks, and using different heights and angles, threw them at the "Moon" to study the pattern created by the impact. Lastly, they recorded the results to show why the moon has craters and rays!

Afterwards, the students used the NASA Solar System Exploration Website to observe the Moon in real time using the Daily Moon Guide, "NASA's interactive map for observing the Moon". After exploring the Moon close-up, the students discovered what the moon would look like on their BIRTHDAY this year!





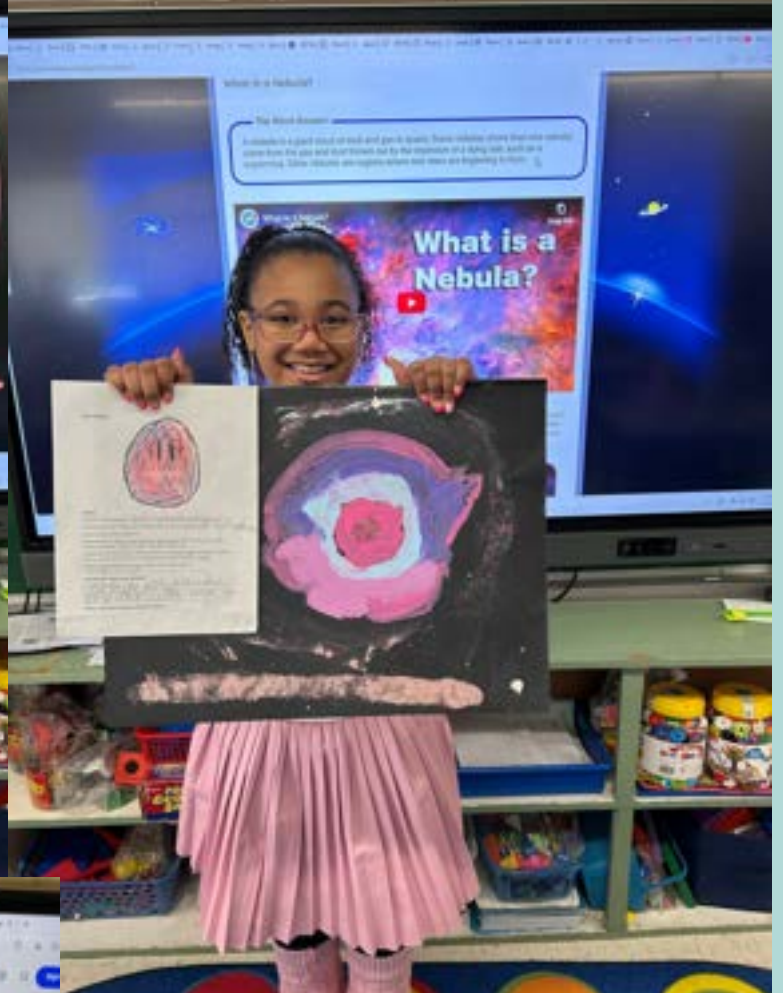












Mrs. Holland also told of her father's adventures working with the United States Navy! Al Whelan had to use crutches because he was crippled by Polio when he was three years old. Mrs. Holland explained that "just because his legs did not work, did not mean that his brain did not work!" Al often worked on the battleship, USS Iowa, fixing radar equipment. The first time he went aboard the USS Iowa, the Admiral in charge did not want him working there, because of his legs! Al told the Admiral, "I can do anything you can!" So, the Admiral told a pilot to take him up in a plane and "spin him!" The Admiral wanted to make Al vomit to show that he was a weak man! But Al Whelan was not going to let that happen! No matter how many times they spun the plane, Al refused to throw up!!! That night, the Admiral took him out for dinner and drinks! After that, the Admiral had great respect for Al!

Al Whelan was also a hero! One day while working on the USS Iowa, the Naval doctor sent for Al. The doctor was treating a man that had been exposed to Polio and was showing symptoms. They called Al because the doctor knew he had had Polio and would have the antibodies to help the sick man fight off the disease! The Naval doctor asked Al if could use his blood for a transfusion. Al said, "Yes!" The doctor performed an arm-to-arm transfusion with Al's blood going directly into the sick man! Because of the antibodies given to him through Al's blood, the man recovered without getting Polio!!! Al Whelan gave his blood to save the man!

Another adventure happened when Al was working on fixing the radar system on the USS Iowa when it was docked in Virginia. Suddenly, the ship started heading out to sea! President Kennedy had signaled to ship out to invade Cuba at the Bay of Pigs on April 17, 1961. Al was a civilian and wasn't supposed to be going to war, but there was no time to get Al off the battleship! Al told the Admiral that he had to get off the ship because his wife expected him home for dinner! Instead, the Admiral put Al on the bridge and the Navy was taking him with them to Cuba! Fortunately, they ended up making a stop at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and Al was able to get off the ship before they continued onto Cuba!

Mrs. Holland has many more AMAZING stories about her father, Al Whelan. Just ask her about her dad going fishing with Franklin Delanor Roosevelt! We are so GRATEFUL that Mrs. Holland has shared this part of her FAMILY'S INCREDIBLY RICH HISTORY with us!



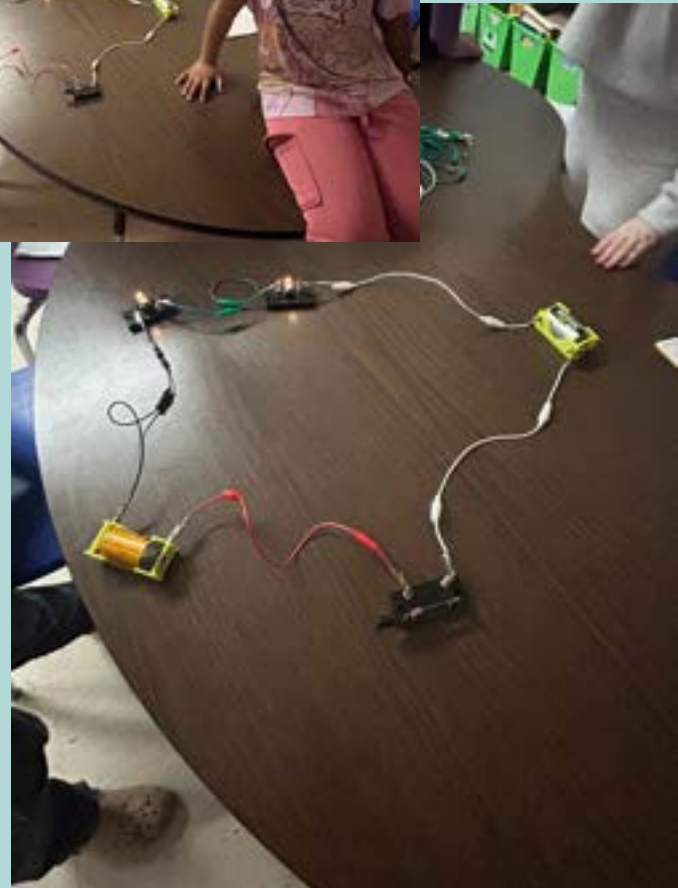
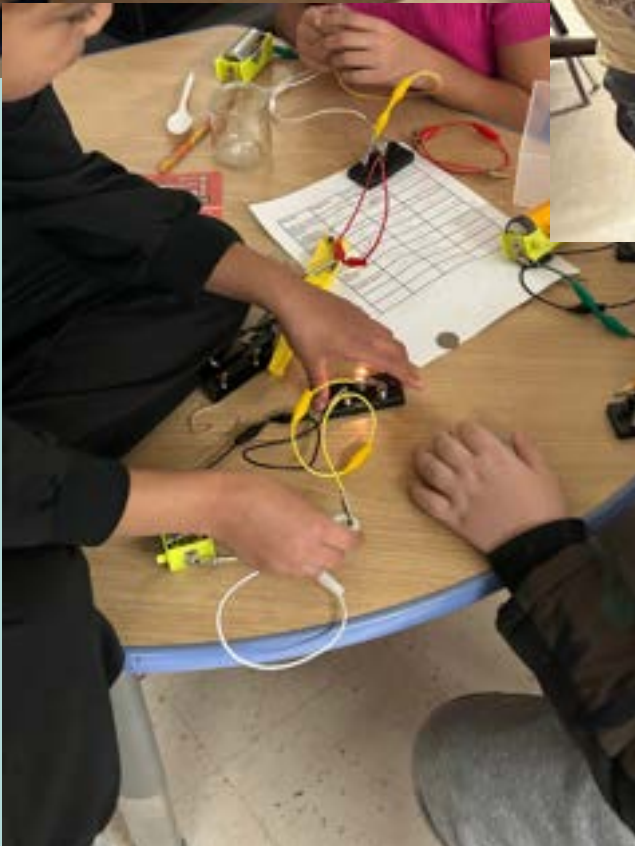
Mrs. Bowles and Ms. Sheppard's fifth grade class observed how their pea seeds can grow with just using water and the sun's energy. Each group had a least one seed sprout. They transferred the seeds to soil to continue their growth. The hope is to plant them in the school garden!

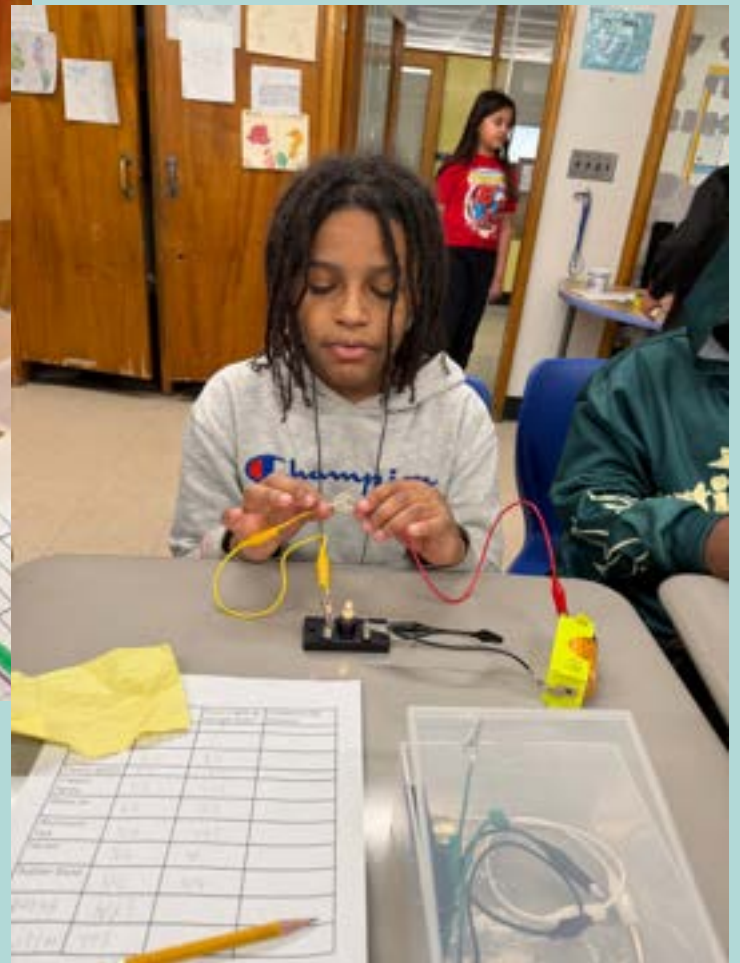


Mrs. Whipple's fourth grade class has been learning about parallel and series circuits. They explored how to make their lightbulb light up using different conductors of electricity.

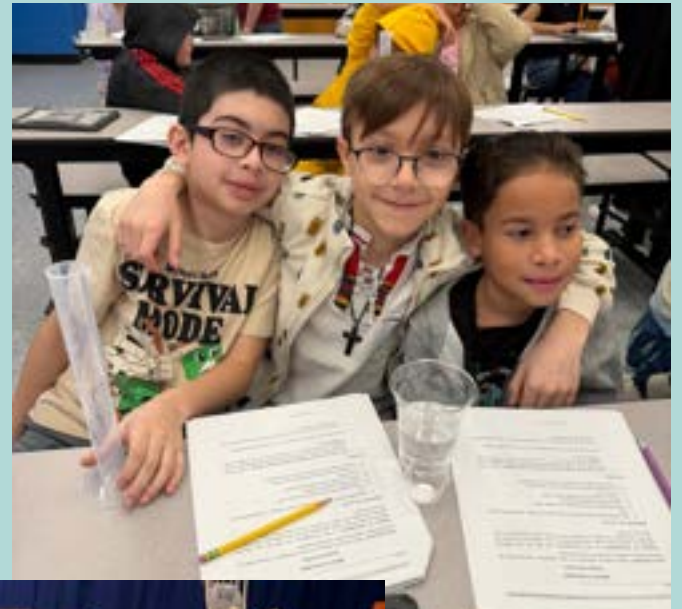
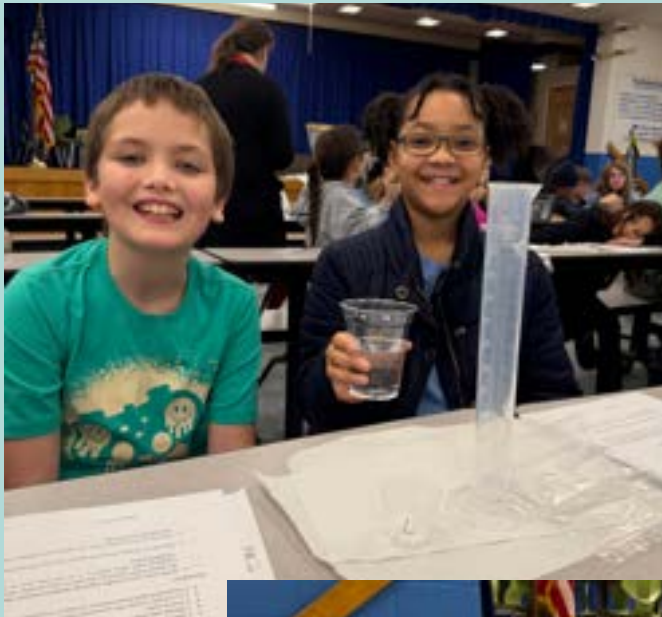


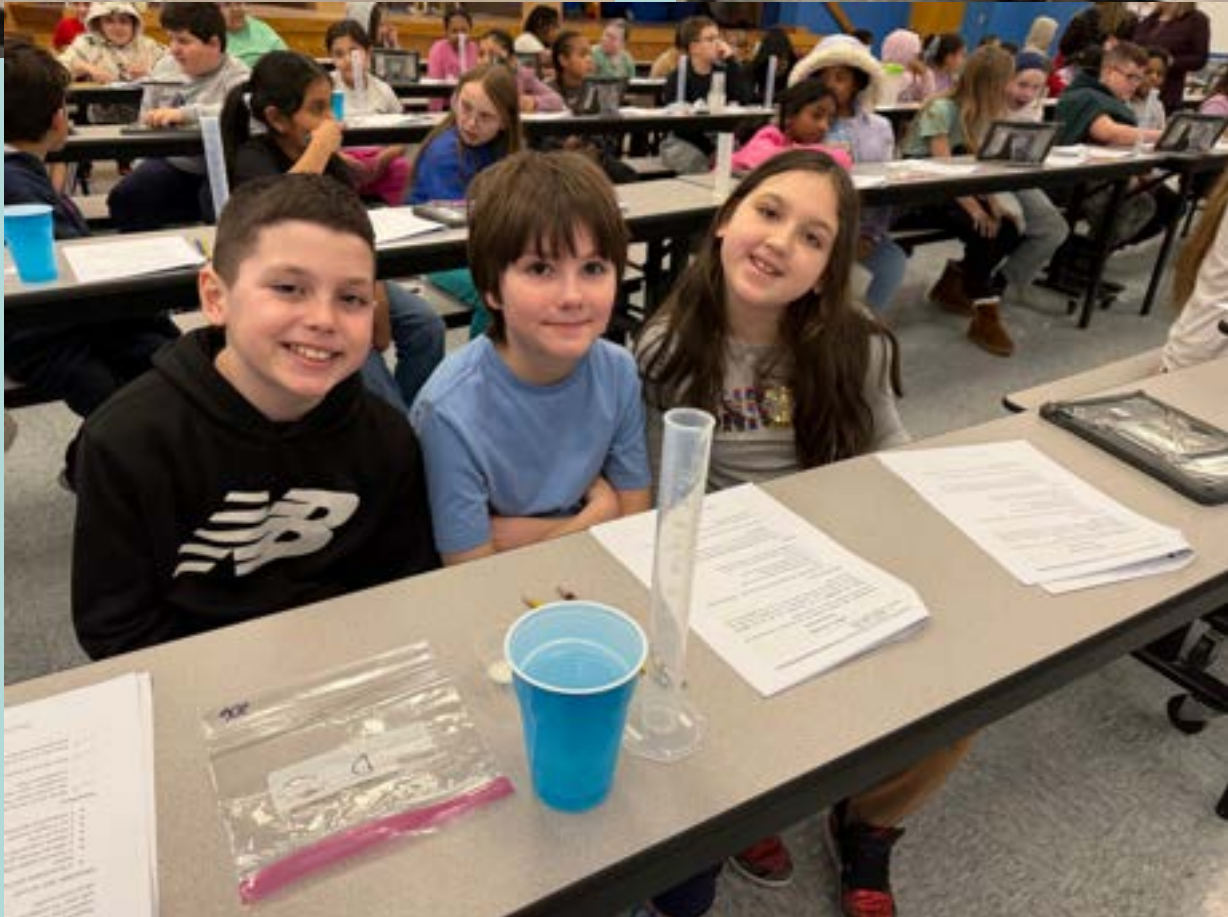
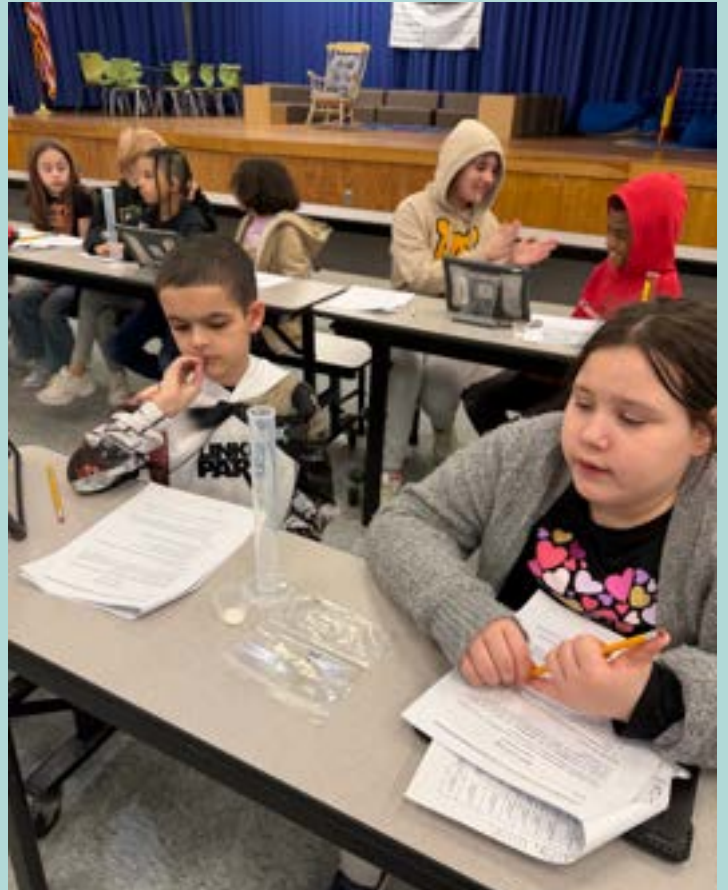
Material	Magnetic	Does it light the light bulb?	Insulator
Wooden stick	NO	NO	INSULATOR
Metal	YES	YES	CONDUCTOR
Tweezers	YES	YES	CONDUCTOR
Newspaper	NO	NO	INSULATOR
Plastic Spoon	NO	NO	INSULATOR
Aluminum Foil	NO	YES	CONDUCTOR
Nickel	YES	YES	CONDUCTOR
Rubber Band	NO	NO	INSULATOR



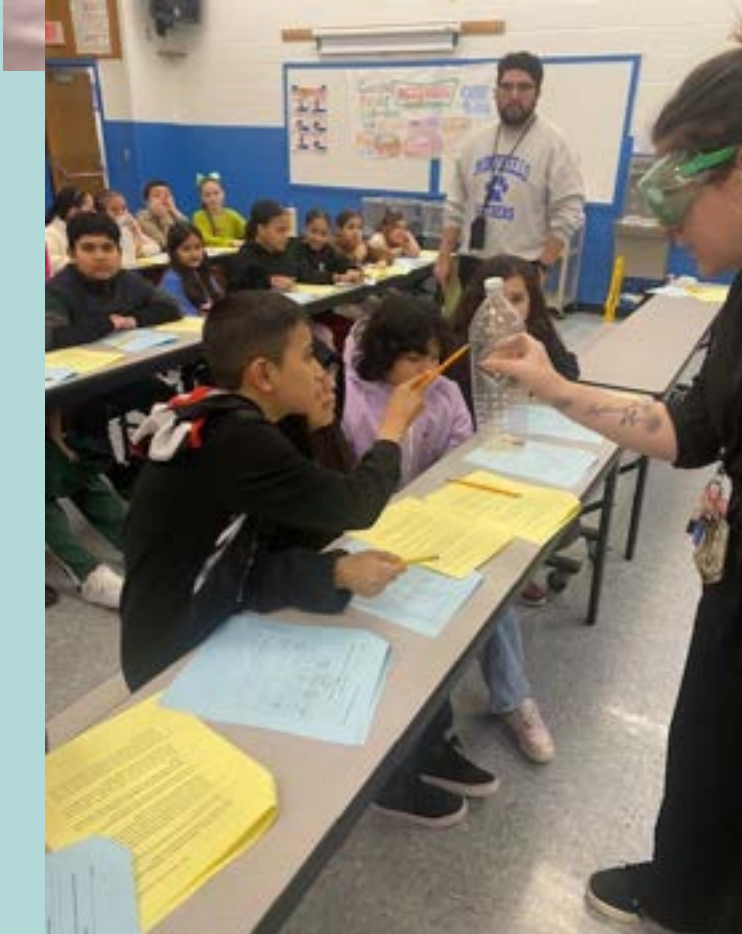
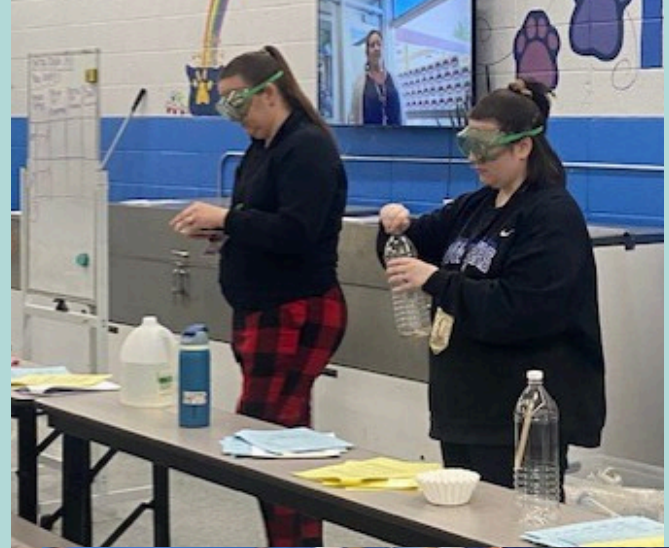


The fourth grade students completed their New York State “What’s in the Bag?” Lab together in the dining hall!





The fifth grade students completed their New York State “Cloud in a Bottle” Lab together in the dining hall!



# What's STREAMing at....

Monticello High School



Students went to Sam's Point for a geology field trip where students learned about local tectonic and glacial activity.



**Students took a field trip to Sono-Tek Corporation to learn about STREAM career paths and what Sono-Tek does in STREAM.**



**Students went to The Gap Distribution Center to learn about STREAM career paths.**



**Marc Hoover from trout software which is a local cyber security firm based out of Kingston came to speak with our students regarding STREAM career paths.**



# The Engineering Design Process

