Energy is Everywhere!

Fox Road Elementary 5th Grade

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As International Baccalaureate fifth graders, our students get to pick global issues they are passionate about to research and present to students, staff, parents and community members. To assist students in picking a topic, we read books such as "Long Walk to Water" and "Planting the Trees of Kenya." Projects on climate action, clean water, and pollution led to interviews with experts, use of the NEED website, increased understanding and action. One group contacted the "Feed the Bin" program requesting a bottle recycling bin for the cafeteria so bottles could be more easily recycled there. The same students spend part of their lunch break picking up recycled paper from every classroom and office on campus. Another group had people sign a contract that they would go at least a week just drinking water from a reusable container, creating no extra beverage garbage that week.

NEED materials have also played a big part in our learning this year. We LOVED making energy efficient gingerbread houses. Two classes have been excited by every "Beep" and "Eergh" in the new "Star War" play, have quested with Harry Potter, and have practiced poetry with "Pecos Bill." They were introduced to solar ovens in "Star War," and are eagerly awaiting the day later this year when we are going out to cook in them (after pollen season ends). Inquiry Lab and Science Club students have done investigations with wind turbines, inquiries into circuits, volcanos, rockets, fragile ecosystems, the water cycle, and the importance of the sun.

We Love NEED





It was a Blast Finding "Real" and Imaginary Energy Saving Methods!



Others had peppermint pipes (insulated water pipes) and other magical energy saving ideas.

Gummy worm compost piles