



Soaring With Energy



Our project, *“Soaring With Energy,”* empowered students to grow as confident leaders, mentors, and science ambassadors. Students hosted an Energy Expo at the Indian River Lagoon Science Festival, where they confidently presented research about energy sources and engaged the community through hands-on activities. As part of our project, students participated in the NEED Holiday Song Contest by creating and recording an original energy-themed song. Leadership will continue to soar beyond the classroom at the Oxbow Eco-Center Earth Day Festival, further strengthening communication skills, scientific understanding, and meaningful community connections.

Leadership flourished within the school as students led an after-school “Kids Teaching Kids” Energy Event, serving as role models for their peers. Students facilitated solar-themed lessons, interactive energy stations, and story presentations. In addition, students supported sustainability efforts by maintaining the school garden, applying environmental stewardship through teamwork and resource management. Leadership development will continue with this year’s Energy Carnival, a student-led, schoolwide event building on last year’s success. With support from community partners and local business sponsors—including Harper’s Helping Hands, Taylor 4 Teens, and Hutchinson Island Resort—student leaders will continue engaging in authentic, real-world experiences that extend learning beyond the classroom while positively impacting their school and community.

Student Advisors: Emily Black, Trey LaChance, Hunter Matthews, Kaitlyn Arbuzow, Elysian Brewer, Paige Grubbs
Project Advisors: Mollie Mukhamedov, Melissa Halberg, Sara Bolton, Sarah Williams

Goal 1: Teach Sources of Energy



Energy Content Activities

- **4th and 5th grade students** hosted an **Energy Expo** for the Indian River Lagoon Science Festival and will present again at the Oxbow Eco-Center Earth Day festival.

Students participated in the NEED Holiday Song and Story Contest

Student Leadership

- Students took charge of researching their chosen energy sources and designing exhibits for the festivals.

Resources

- **NEED Energy Expo Unit**
- **NEED Energy Infobooks**
- **NEED Science of Energy**

Evaluation

- Teachers monitored student presentations at the festival.
- Feedback from festival participants.
- Mrs. Bolton recorded her class singing Jamir's song and submitted the video to NEED. They won a \$25 gift card.

"I have loved science my whole life and it always surprises me how interesting science can be. I want to teach others how amazing science is. I am especially passionate about renewable resources that can help our earth." Trey



Our mission is to help people realize that science is relevant, interesting, fun, and an important part of their lives by promoting community knowledge and experience with science-based organizations in the local area.

HOST AN EXHIBIT

The culminating event of the IRL Science Festival is on **Saturday, October 25, 2025, from 10:00 AM -3:00 PM**. It takes place at Veterans Memorial Park at the River Walk on the waterfront in Fort Pierce. The event is rain or shine!

The IRL Science Festival is an opportunity for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) organizations and businesses to share their work with the Treasure Coast community through hands-on, minds-on activities and demonstrations. We reserve the right to exclude any potential exhibitors that do not align with the theme of the festival.



APRIL 18
2026
AT THE
OXBOW ECO-CENTER



Saturday, April 18

10am - 4pm

Admission is free!

Rain or Shine!

The IRL Science Festival is organized by members of the community for the community.

Visit the Festival's six unique "neighborhoods" where local organizations, agencies and businesses share hands-on activities. Meet local environmental groups, health professionals, foresters, gardeners, beekeepers and so much more!



"I get to be a part of all these amazing things and learn how to be a better leader in teaching other students about energy efficiency." Emily



JINGLE BELLS: URANIUM EDITION



(C)
Dashing through the snow,
In a sleigh of Uranium,
Laughing all the way,
With a radio tuned to radium!

(V1)
Oh, the fields are bright,
With glowing lights tonight,
What fun it is to ride,
In a sleigh that's out of sight!

(C)
Jingle bells, uranium smells,
Glowing in the night!
Oh, what fun it is to ride,
In a sleigh that's made just right!

(V2)
Through the snow we soar,
With isotopes galore,
Who needs reindeer now?
When Uranium is the score!

(C)
Jingle bells, uranium gels,
Radiating cheer!
Oh, what fun it is to ride,
In a sleigh without a fear!

From: Emily Hawbaker <ehawbaker@need.org>

Sent: Friday, January 16, 2026 3:30 PM

I wanted to share that your students helped create some of our favorite songs! NEED's team made a list of our favorites from all the submissions, and yours were among those selected as the best!

Please thank your students for their hard work and creativity! And thank you, teachers, for always being up for a fun challenge.

You will be receiving a link for a gift card prize from Amazon shortly. Please use this for a reward, snacks, or supplies for your students who participated OR for your whole class.

Elementary Winner

Morningside, "Jingle Bells: Uranium Edition" - Best Performance



Christmas Jingle
- Jingle Bells, Uranium
Edition



Goal 2: Teach Science of Energy Stations

Energy Content Activities

1. Students study the Science of Energy using NEED's Science of Energy kit.
2. Students teach other students about energy transformations.

Student Leadership

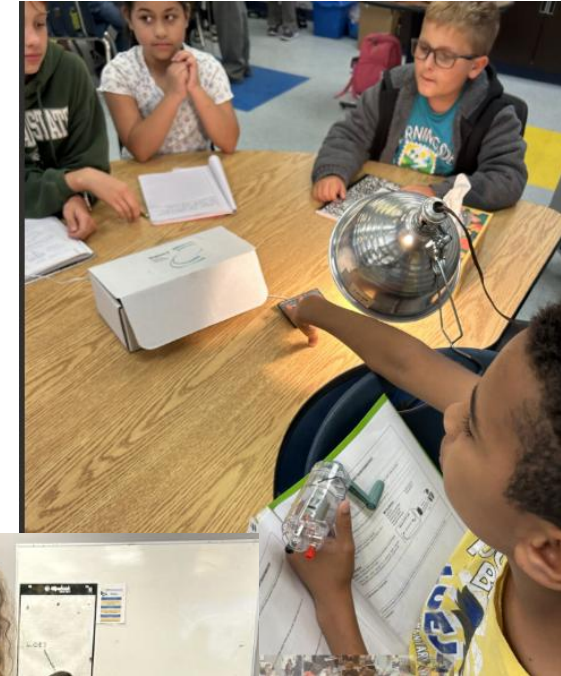
1. Students learn their experiment and plan their presentation for other students.
2. Students teach other students about the Science of Energy.

Resources

1. NEED Elementary Science of Energy Unit
2. NEED Energy Info books

Evaluation:

1. Student interest and participation
3. Teacher monitoring of presentations
4. Feedback from other students and teachers about presentations



NEED Science of Energy Stations

Station One	Potential and Kinetic Energy-Emily
Station Two	Endothermic and Exothermic Reactions- Trey
Station Three	Radiant Energy Transformations- Hunter
Station Four	Thermal Energy and Motion Energy- Kaitlyn,
Station Five	Chemical Energy- Elysian
Station Six	Electrical Energy-Paige

NEED Energy Stories

Student Leader	NEED Energy Story
Mai (Biomass)	Trey
Dear Sandy (Uranium)	Emily
A Nice Natural Gas	Kaitlyn
Dear Sandy (Uranium)	Jamir
The Tale of Anne Soakly (Hydroelectricity)	Elysian
Tale of Little Big Fuel (Propane)	Hunter



Goal 3: Maintain a School Garden



Activities and Tasks

Students maintained the school garden through planting, watering, monitoring growth, and ongoing care. Students also released butterflies in the garden as part of hands-on life science and energy learning.

Energy Content and Resources

NEED Energy Infobook (laminated copies of the solar energy and photosynthesis pages are kept in the Little Free Library at the garden.)

The garden was used to teach **solar energy, photosynthesis, and energy transfer**. Students explored how energy moves from the sun to plants and then to organisms through ecosystem interactions.

Student Leadership

Students led garden tasks, guided peers, and supported the butterfly release by explaining energy transfer, life cycles, and stewardship. Leadership, teamwork, and responsibility were demonstrated throughout the project.

Evaluation

Student learning was evaluated through observation and discussion. Success was shown through active participation, effective leadership, garden upkeep, and students' ability to explain energy flow in living systems.



Goal #4

Activities and Tasks

Student leaders planned and hosted an after-school *Kids Teaching Kids* Energy Event that included solar s'mores, solar balloons and bracelets, energy stories, Pretzel Power, and Science of Energy investigations. Students facilitated stations, prepared materials, and engaged peers prior to Science Night.

Energy Content and Resources

Students explored **solar energy, energy transfer, and energy use** through interactive activities. Resources used included the **NEED Infobook, NEED Elementary Science of Energy, NEED Games and Icebreakers, and NEED Energy Expo materials.**

Student Leadership

Student leaders served as teachers and facilitators by leading stations, explaining energy concepts, and modeling collaboration, responsibility, and enthusiasm for energy learning.


Evaluation

Success was evaluated through observation of student engagement, participation, and leadership. Students demonstrated understanding by accurately explaining energy concepts and actively guiding peers through activities.

Kids Teaching Kids
MARCH 26 - \$10
Before Science Night

If your child has an after-school obligation, they are still welcome to join us when they finish at 4:30, (meet @ picnic tables outside). Parents can enjoy two hours of kid-free time while your child has a dinner, enjoys some science fun, and gets ready for an exciting MAD Science evening. Please be sure to come back to experience the AMAZING Science Night we have planned, IF you have paid for Mad Science Night! All kids should have parents present at the MAD Science Night!
(This event is an additional event!)

Visit www.schoolpay.com or scan QR code to pay
Payments due by 03/24

3:30-4:30 Solar Fun <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solar S'mores• Solar Balloons & Bracelets• Energy Stories	4:30-5:00 Pretzel Power Game and Science of Energy Energy Investigations
5:00-5:30 Dinner Time <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pizza• Drink 	Extras Silent Auction & Snacks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hutchinson Island Hotel Gift Card• Snacks for purchase

Fundraiser for MSE NEED Project trip to the 2026 National Youth Energy Conference in Washington D.C.

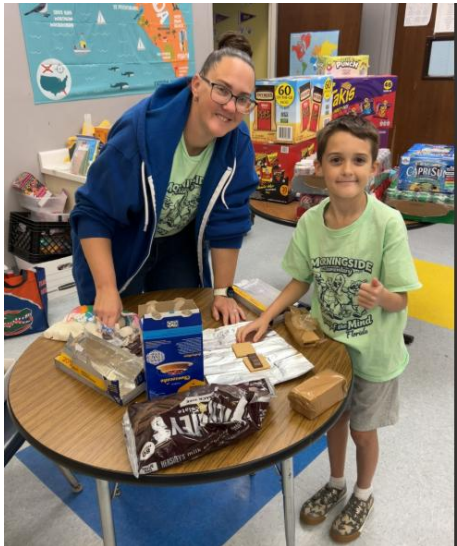


Pretzel Power!

Solar Smore's

Round 2- great idea to carpool with the current gas prices!

Science of Energy Investigations

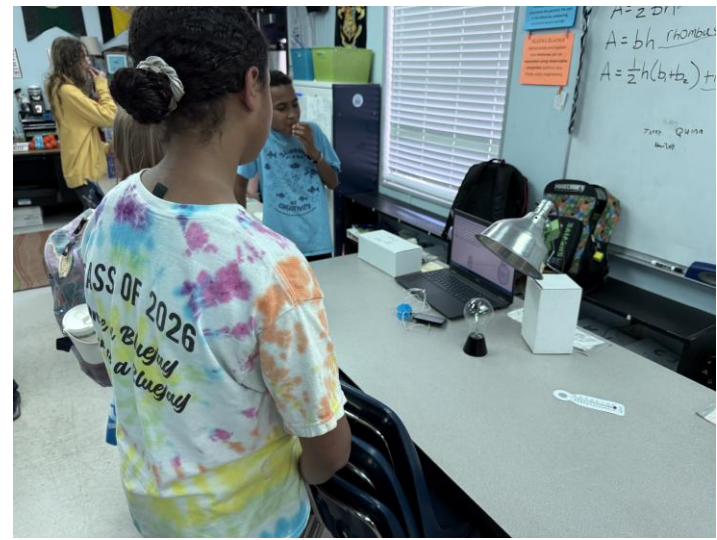


Energy Stories

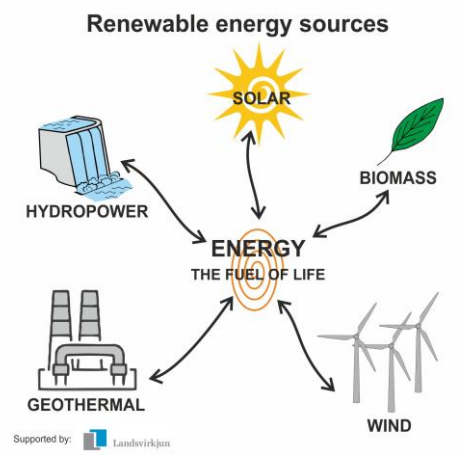
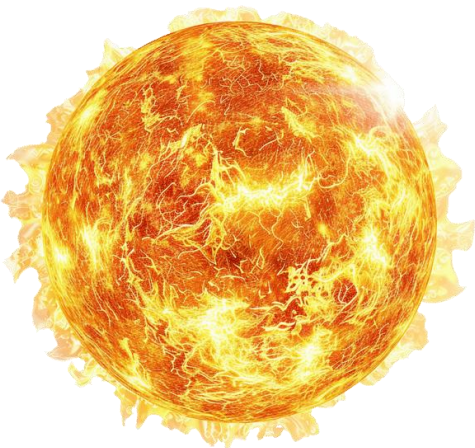


This is Mai and she lives in rural China.
Her family farms pigs for money.





Solar Balloons!



Energy Stations

Goal 5: Host an Energy Carnival and Expo

Energy Content Activities

1. Students prepare a game for the energy carnival.
2. Students use their Energy Expo projects to display during the carnival.



Student Leadership

1. Student leaders research an energy source and create an engaging display
2. Student leaders will prepare a game for the Energy carnival and plan to lead the game during the event.

Resources

1. NEED Energy Info books
2. NEED Energy Expo unit
3. NEED Energy Carnival unit

Evaluation:

1. Student interest and participation
2. Feedback from other students and teachers about presentations
3. Feedback from other students and teachers after the carnival.



VISIT
WWW.SCHOOLPAY.COM
OR SCAN THE QR CODE
TO GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

Energy CARNIVAL

5th graders are bringing their A game to an energy carnival that will be loads of fun and help students learn about forms and sources of energy. Please send in cash to your child's teacher or use schoolpay so your child can participate.

FRIDAY, 23 MAY	PARTICIPATING STUDENTS: DURING RESOURCE	\$5-5 TICKETS \$10-15 TICKETS \$20-40 TICKETS
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Tickets can be used on numerous energy inspired games or a chance drawing!
All proceeds will be used to help identified 5th graders attend the 2025 NEED conference in Washington DC to accept our awards-Florida Elementary School of the Year and Finalist National Elementary School of the year!

Science Carnival Games-2026

2026 Student Leaders

Ring Masters- Kaitlyn, Pearl & KJ

Energy Equations-Elysian & Ethan

Energy Jumble-Hunter & Chandler

Energy Pictionary-Paige & Mason

Energy Pursuit- Kemani & Jamir

Energy Sleuth-Pyotr & Pearl

Energy Taboo- Sawyer& Jamir

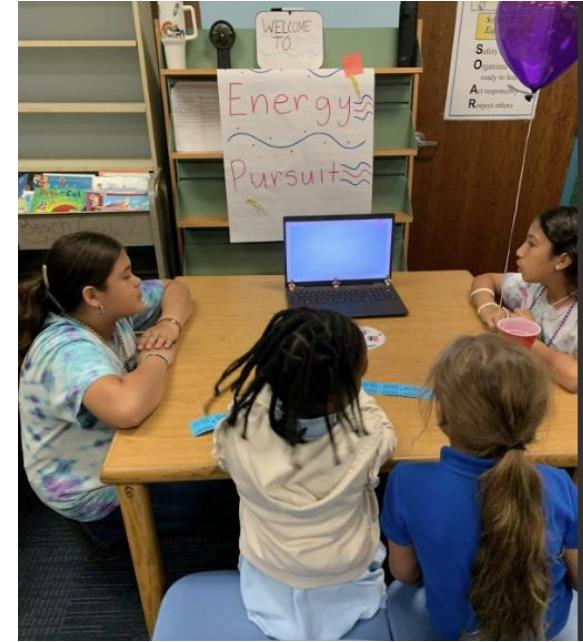
Energy Knockdown- Trey & Luke

Source Separation- KJ & Blake

Top Five- Joseph & Jax

Wheel of Energy-Noah & Levi

Lights Out! –Sawyer & Kemani



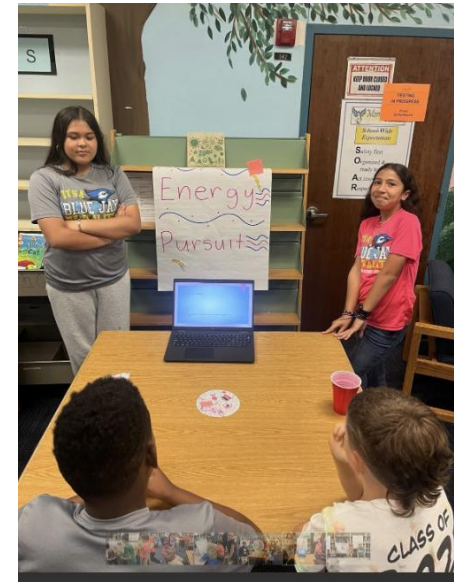
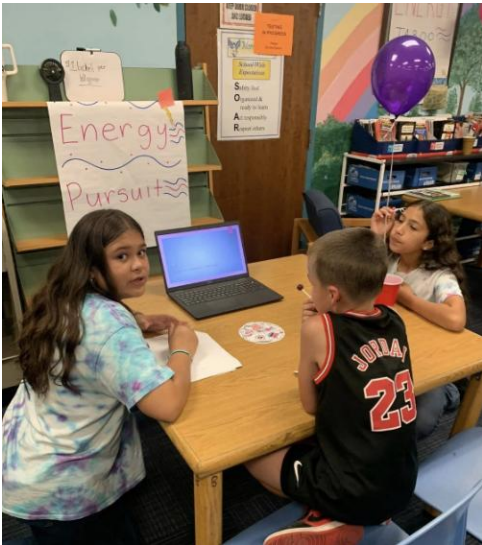
Pictures from last year to inspire us for 5/22/26





Pictures from 2025 Energy Carnival

This year's carnival is May 22! We can't wait to celebrate with our school family.



Goal 6: Thank you to our school family and sponsors.

Energy Content Activities

1. Host a coloring contest and award prizes
2. Award prizes for participation in school-wide events

Student Leadership

1. Students select winners and deliver prizes
2. Students write thank you notes

Resources

1. NEED Coloring books
2. NEED prizes (pens, pencils, glasses, fans, bags, etc.)

Evaluation

1. School and community support for our project



Harpers Helping Hands

98 followers • 1 following

Nonprofit organization



Message

Following

Search



Taylor 4 Teens

2.4K followers • 51 following

Awareness and Prevention of Teen Suicide

Nonprofit organization



DEAR BLUEJAY,



Thank you SO MUCH for coming to our ENERGY Carnival—we had a BLAST and hope you did too! To keep the fun going, we're giving you a SUPER COOL COLORING BOOK to enjoy ALL SUMMER LONG!

WE ARE ALSO DOING A FUN SUMMER CHALLENGE! COLOR EVERY PAGE IN THIS BOOK AND BRING THE FINISHED VERSION TO OPEN HOUSE ON AUGUST 7th.

BONUS CHALLENGE! DRAW YOUR OWN ENERGY-THEMED PICTURE! NEED IDEAS? TRY DRAWING:

- A HOUSE WITH SOLAR PANELS ON THE ROOF
- A FIELD OF WIND TURBINES SPINNING IN THE BREEZE
- AN ELECTRIC CAR ZOOMING DOWN THE ROAD
- A SUPERHERO WHO SAVES THE PLANET WITH CLEAN ENERGY POWERS!
- A CITY GLOWING AT NIGHT POWERED BY RENEWABLE ENERGY

WE'LL PICK ONE WINNER FROM EACH GRADE TO WIN AN AWESOME ENERGY PRIZE WE BRING BACK FROM OUR TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C!



HAVE A GREAT SUMMER, AND HAPPY COLORING!

-MSE 5th GRADERS



T-Shirt Sale!
Help support our 4th and 5th graders and get a new shirt for work!



Email Jenn Black your shirt size and use the QR code to place your order by April 10



Silent Auction

Bid on your next getaway at the Welcome Table during Open House, 8/7, 3:30-5:30pm
To Benefit: NEED Conference in Washington, D.C.

HAMPTON INN & SUITES ST. AUGUSTINE-VILANO BEACH
3 day/ 2 Night Accommodations
King Balcony, King Studio, or 2 Queen Room (Based on Availability)
Valid Through December 31, 2025

HUTCHINSON ISLAND HOTEL FT. PIERCE, FL
2 Day/ 1 Night Accommodations
Standard King or 2 Queen Room (Based on Availability)
Valid Through December 31, 2025

HUTCHINSON ISLAND HOTEL FT. PIERCE, FL
3 Day/ 2 Night Accommodations
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The NEED Project

4.7K followers • 280 following

Over 45 Years of Putting Energy into Education!

Nonprofit organization



City of Port St. Lucie - City Hall

51K followers • 199 following

The official Facebook page of the City of Port St. Lucie, Florida

Heart of the Treasure Coast

#iamPSL

Government organization

