



Lighthouse News @Scholars



Student Edition

This edition of the Lighthouse News comes from the Scholars students across the district. There are snippets about their thoughts about their year at Scholars or samples of their work.

It has been a busy and exciting year at Scholars! Orange School District became members of the Essex County Gifted and Talented Committee which provided students an opportunity to compete and interact with other students in Gifted and

Talented programs in Essex County. The STEM lab provided multiple projects with various programs which you can read about in the STEM section of this newsletter. Regarding Science, the research projects provided a variety of scientific skills and experiments to address Next Generation Science standards. The Language Arts area had

meaningful debates about current topics in the local, state, and national news; researched Beatrix Potter's works; and introduced the new GT ELA program by Kendall Hunt and endorsed by the William and Mary Center for Gifted Education.

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Enjoy your summer months! Continue to check the Scholars webpage and keep the learning opportunities alive! Read over the summer!

-Mrs. Machuca
Principal



Thank you to all the school Liaisons who assisted with the program. Your support and communication were essential with the success of the program this year. Thank you to all the teachers and staff who provided referrals and documentation as well. We value your partnership! Thank you also to the parents for their continued support and dedication to the Scholars program. We are a great team!





ELA—Mr. Brooks

Relationships
 Relationships are like rollercoasters you have your ups and downs thing change you don't know what will happen next , you just go with it.
 Make sure you are loved for who YOU ARE! If they don't then you are just too good for them to see the real you.
 Virginie G. (5th grader Cleveland)

A VOW TO A FRIEND:
 When you make that vow, it is forever. You will endure fights, forgive mistakes, and understand struggles, support decisions, stand up for someone when they are too weak to do it alone. Sure, you get into arguments, but a REAL/TRUE FRIENDSHIP is one where people can get you up when you fall, that is a friend.
 By Cassandra D(6th grader Heywood)

LOVE, LOVE, LOVE,
 What is love?
 To me love is romance.
 It's family.
 It's friendship.
 It's hope.
 It's passion.
 It's life.
 So we should care for it.
 We should live it.
 We should spread it.
 We should be it.
 We should love.
 By Macdala J

Life by Railon C (5th grader, Heywood)
 Life is the most, wildest, dangerous, exciting and the most spectacular thing ever.
 Life is where accomplishments happen and where history is made. So don't sweat it. Just BE YOU!!!
 Don't' waste your life doing things you will regret later. MAKE GOOD CHOICES!!!
 So in my conclusion, learn to live, love and LAUGH!!!!!!

A PROFESSIONAL WRITER IS AN AMATEUR WHO DIDN'T QUIT.
Richard Bach

Grades 5th & 6th
Quotes of love and relationships:
 This group took the lead from the 7th and 8th grade colleagues and have continued writing quotes of their own to encourage themselves as well their peers through expressive writing exercise.





ELA—Mr. Brooks

Literacy helps me learn new things in ways I've never known before. Literacy also helps me to be confident and make new friends. This core helps me to care, love, and help others. I love this core because it showed me how to get out of my shell and show who I really am.
 Gloria N 4th grader Rosa Park Community School

Literacy helps me express my true thoughts, ideas, and most important helps me to express me. Literacy also helps me to get ahead in the class at my home school. For example my ELA teacher was asking us why women were being treated in this certain way. So I thought back to our topic of gender equality we discussed at Scholars and wrote about. I raised my hand and said, "because women were not treated equal". The teacher said I was correct. So that's how literacy helps me.
 Yasheka S 4th grade Heywood Avenue

Amya S, (5th grader Heywood)
 Love is beautiful,
 But it hurts when it is over.
 And broken hearts fix nothing. It makes me happy to find something or someone that loves me.
 Remember a True LOVE STORY
 NEVER ENDS!!!!

Literacy helps me read and explain things better. It helps me be better at my home school with current topics. Also it helps me at home because I'm watching TV; I turn it off and draw something creatively. This how Literacy helps me.
 Yanni H.
 3rd Grader Rosa Parks Community School.

Grades 4th & 3rd
 How Literacy Core has helped them:

"WRITING IS THE PAINTING OF THE VOICE!"
 VOLTAIRE





Math—Mrs. Keogh

Math Adventures
2014-2015

During this past school year, we took our learning to the next level and increased our math knowledge. We began our year exploring the Yanomami culture in the Amazon region. Through our research we learned that many people were affected by the disease known as malaria. Our challenge was to create a medicine carrier that would keep the malaria vaccine within certain temperatures while making a two hour trip to the Yanomami village. Throughout this project we had to be mindful of cost, insulation, and durability. The process used for this project was the Engineering Design Process, also known as

EDP.

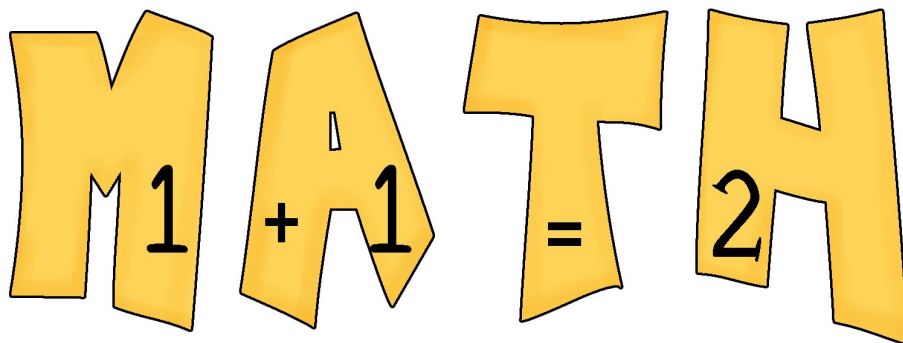
While researching the malaria outbreak in the Amazon, we learned of another issue affecting the Yanomami people. Nearby gold miners were contaminating the water with mercury which made the water unusable. Our task was to use EDP to create a water filtration system that would decrease the amount of mercury in the water. In small groups we created different prototypes of the water filtration system and tested each model. Our main challenge was to ensure that the flow rate of the water stayed within the guidelines of the task. During this project we tested our models and graphed our data and used this data throughout this project.

For our final project of the year, we created amusement park rides with K'nex. Some of the rides featured in our amusement park are: the incline plane, scrambler, pirate ship, London eye, ferris wheel, swings, boom, and a rollercoaster with a clothoid loop. Some of the math skills we used during this project were area, circumference, velocity, diameter, radius, rate, angle, and slope.

Math students at scholars also participated in a problem solving competition as well as a challenge 24 competition held by the Essex county gifted and talented steering committee. We are proud of our accomplishments, and our growth in this past year. We want to give a special thanks to Mrs. Keogh for all the hard work she has done this year.

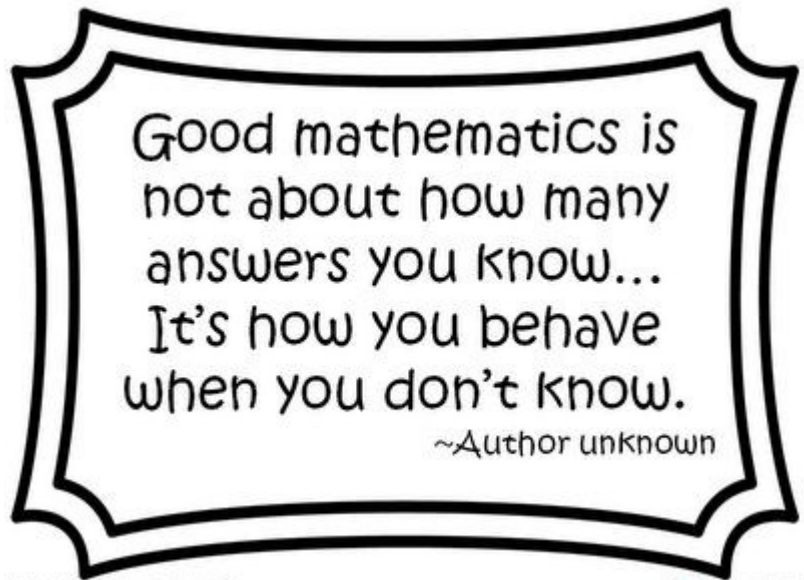
Submitted by,

Math Core students grades 5-8



MAKES YOUR
LIFE ADD UP!





**Some Tips for Keeping your Math Skills Sharp
over the Summer
Submitted by,
Math Core Students grades 3/4**

- Play math games on funbrain.com (Antonio J)
- Practice Flash Cards at least once or twice a day (Xiomara S.)
- Play Sumdog.com every day for 3 hours (Arielle H.)
- When you go walking, look at the buildings and see if you can name the shapes (Jamal K.)
- Play 24 to work on Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division (Jairo M)
- Go to summer school (Brianna A)
- Read Math books and do work in workbooks (Isaiah L)



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Science—Mr. Baer

The Science Core students here at Scholars Academy did an outstanding job with their Individual Research Project presentations. It was an opportunity for the students to step-up and teach their fellow students about what they learned. Each of our Scholars was able to participate in several student-led lessons. As this is our final newsletter for the 2014-2015 school-year, we thought it would be nice to hear from some of the students themselves about what they accomplished in Science Core this year and what the program has meant to them:

Ashley L, Cleveland Street School, 7th Grade:

Being here at Scholars allows me to gain more knowledge than I would at your average school. This year I have learned about the interaction between Acids and Bases. The idea of neutralization and the way chemicals react interested me. Overall, my presentation demonstrated a lesson that you would normally only see in High School. I got to mix Hydrochloric Acid and Sodium Hydroxide to prove the reaction produces a salt. I used a Snap Circuit kit to create a conductivity meter to test the salinity of the product solutions. This program is a wonderful opportunity for students who want to excel. I would like to suggest that the program should extend the amount of time we get to spend here – such as adding afterschool hours. I have been a student and a scientist in Mr. Baer's Science Core for over 3 years and I have no thought of switching cores.

Tashana N Cleveland Street School: 7th Grade:

My experience for the past three years at Scholars has been amazing. What I have done in Science Core this year is learn about what I love and to become an expert at everything that has to do with it. I studied Precipitation Reactions and spent most of my core time researching the topic, conducting experiments, and preparing a presentation about it. I learn a lot of science here even though I only get to come here once a week. I learn a lot in other classes as well. I am way ahead in my Math class because of Mrs. Keogh and I learned so much about the current world because of Mr. Brooks. I have always had dreams of becoming a scientist and this program has to be the best key to opening the door to my dreams. Thank you to everyone who works at Scholars Academy for giving me such a great experience.

Ibrahima S, Park Avenue School, 6th Grade:

I think that I have been very successful a Scholars this year. During my presentation I was well prepared and I taught the class an AP Chemistry lesson on Le Chatelier's Principle. I think that Scholars is a place for students to come and learn at a higher level. I only wish that we could come to Scholars two days a week instead of just one.

Abigail E Heywood Avenue School, 5th Grade:

I have accomplished a lot during the year. I increased my knowledge about

how our lungs function. I've done a lot of research and found out things I never knew before. For example, did you know your left lung is smaller than your right lung to make room for your heart? Scholars Academy is a great program. I like that students get to share their opinions a lot and get to make their own decisions about what they want to study. I had a great time in Science Core this year and I think I might like to try other cores in the future so I can learn even more.

Emely F, Rosa Parks School, 4th Grade:

This year at Scholars I have accomplished many things. I learned about the different types of minerals and have taught the students in my Science Core class about what I learned. The program has had a positive effect on me because the topics I learn are advanced so when I go to learn something later on I will already know about the topic. I think Scholars runs perfectly fine.

Jose P, Lincoln Avenue School, 3rd Grade:

I have contributed a lot at Scholars this year. I love to ask many questions and I am always curious and trying to learn something. I finished a project on sound waves. It was hard and I tried my best on my experiments. To be honest Scholars is the best place in the world. It has a big impact on my life. Every day at Scholars is filled with excitement. I want Scholars to be open 7 days a week.

Zineb H, Rosa Parks School, 2nd Grade: I learned in Science about different chemi-





Science—Mr. Baer



My favorite experiment was the pink lemonade. When you have juice powder and mix it in with water and leave it out in the sun the water will evaporate and the powder stays behind. I think Scholars is amazing.

Kalvin T, Park Avenue School, 2nd Grade: In Science I learned that H₂O is made of two atoms of Hydrogen and one atom of Oxygen. We learned about different molecules and I learned how to use a microscope. I think this program is positive. I think Scholars should insert an elevator. People can choose to take the elevator and others will take the stairs probably because they want to burn off some calories.

Morgan B, Rosa Parks School, 1st Grade: The subject I like at Scholars is Science because I get to do experiments. I want to write about my dog and learn what is in my dog's body!

Shaheed P, Cleveland Street School, 1st Grade: In Science I learned that if you burn sugar it turns into carbon. At Scholars it is fun to learn and they show us things we haven't seen before and learn things we didn't know.

I would like to thank all of the Science Core students for their hard work and dedication to their Individual Research Projects. I know that we all, myself included, learned a lot from your presentations.—Mr. Baer

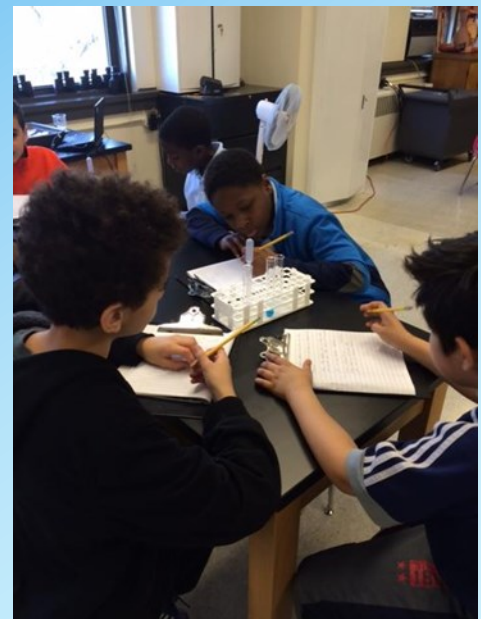
Over the summer I would like all of my budding scientists to continue to jot down "areas of interest." I think that by examining those things that we are truly passionate about we will develop research projects with more depth and understanding. In the meantime, please check out these websites with cool summer science activities to help keep those creative juices flowing: (Mr. Baer)

<http://www.pbs.org/parents/education/science/tips/summer-science-projects/>

<http://lemonlimeadventures.com/must-try-summer-science-activities-for-kids/>

<http://www.science-sparks.com/2013/05/19/summer-science/>

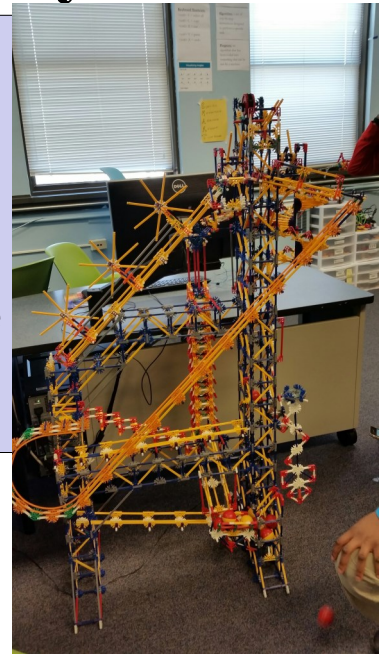
<http://www.stevespanglerscience.com/blog/summer-science-2/sick-science-summer-camp-experiments-and-activities-to-keep-your-kids-busy-learning-this-summer/>





STEM—Mrs. Nadbielny

This year in Scholars Academy, I learned many things. When working on Photo Shop a graphic enhancing software created by Adobe, I realized how important lighting is in a photo, and how the simplest thing like a pencil can distract from the main focus of the photo. I also learned much while doing Mine-Imator an easy-to-use animation studio for Minecraft graphics. It was fun and challenging, and since I was new to animation, I found myself in the FAQ a lot. Mine-Imator has actually inspired me to take a major in animation in college. The last thing I want to mention is the blister-inducing K'Nex. I learned the mechanics of simple machines and the different types. In conclusion, I've had a great year at Scholars, possibly one of my best. —Jadon Y—5th Gr Lincoln

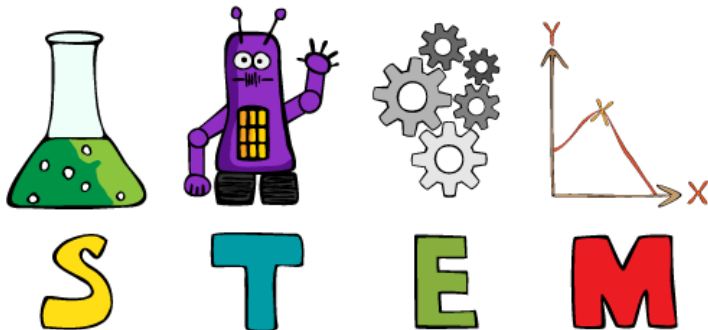


Working in the STEM lab during this year has been fabulous. I have learned many things that are related with Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Such as working with NXT Legos to create a robot and programming it. I have also worked on the computer in the hour of Code where I was programming angry birds and many more characters to do certain actions. I have also done the same thing with Scratch and programmed characters to speak or do certain tasks.

Although I have done many things during this year my most prized possession is the Big Ball Factory. It took us a very short time to finish this complex project. Our goal was to have our factory travel the ball through four different paths. At the end we only needed to fix some issues it had and that was all. What also helped us was the pre knowledge we had about levers, pulleys, wheels and axles. It helped us because everything that makes up the big ball factory are simple and compound machines. This project helped me with my perseverance and patience.

In conclusion, I have learned a lot during this year. Some projects challenged me to do my best and really got the best out of me. —Hector S—6th Gr Lincoln

This year I have learned many things in the S.T.E.M. Lab. I have built, designed, modeled, etc. I made a K'nex tank, I built rockets and flew them on a program called, "Kerbal Space Program," I flew planes on "Flight Simulator X," worked on "Hour of Code" to program my own game. I also made a marble rollercoaster. I had some problems doing all these things, though I always found a solution by myself or with a bit of help. S.T.E.M. is not hard at all, but it challenges you and is very fun. —Afriyie T 7th Gr. Lincoln





STEM—Mrs. Nadbielny

In the Stem lab this year I introduced myself to a few new things and rekindled my skills on already done projects. In Stem this year my partner and I have worked on many great projects together. One of which is Frames. Frames is a program that allows you to make your own stop motion movie. Using this we made our own ninja movie that could be found on YouTube. We also made a hydrogen fuel car. What this did was transfer hydrogen energy to usable electricity. This was a new concept to us. This showed us that STEM is more than the building component but the science part. But something that wasn't was laser security. We have dabbled with it in the past but never thoroughly went through it. This year we dived in. We set up security lasers criss- crossing a special item like my phone or a fake dinosaur. This project showed us that in order to succeed you have to be patient and precise. We also did Comic Life and the Big Ball Factory. Comic life and the Big Ball factory showed us that all the components have to work together to make a great final piece. Stem this year has taught us many lessons not only about science and technology but about life. Here we are supposed to be accurate and patient but realize that there is more than meets the eye.

Richards L.—7th grade Park Ave.

This year in the STEM lab we have worked on several interesting engagements such as Scratch, Frames, Ma-Key MaKey, Photoshop, etc. Scratch is a fun, easy-to-use software that allows you to create games, animations, and simulations while you learn the basics of computer programming. I didn't actually create my own game, but I did learn a lot about computer programming and all of the different things you can do with coding. Frames is a software program that allows you to create stop-motion animations and add special features to make it interesting. You can chose to either import images from the computer or make your animation out of that, or you can create a clay animation and edit your characters and props to make your animation more interesting and realistic as the video progresses. I made a clay animation involving a worm and several background sceneries. MaKey MaKey is a computer controller like your keyboard or mouse, and the best part is that you can hook up your own "buttons". You can turn anything that conducts electricity into a button. You can turn Play-Doh into the controls for Super Mario or play a banana piano. I made arrow keys out of Play-Doh and was able to play all games that you can play with arrow keys. Right now, Soigne and I are working on Adobe Photoshop. Photoshop is professional-standard graphics software. It is a flexible and powerful software program, it can also be a little overwhelming at first with all of the tools that are provided, but when you actually find out what they do, it'll become easier. We're working on photo shopping elders, taking away wrinkles etc. I'm sure they'll thank us when we're done! Overall, our first year in the STEM lab was very entertaining and enriching. From Scratch to Photoshop, we enjoyed all the things we have done. We learned several things from our engagements, and had a lot of fun creating and programming. Can't wait until next year!

Andrea P, Soigne M
6th Graders Forest Street

