

VFA SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

Special Points of Interest:

- Fifth week of Summer Youth Program 2009
- P-Patch Lesson of the Week
- Field trip to the University of Washington

FIFTH WEEK FOR LEVEL 1 STUDENTS

This past week, the kindergarten class was packed full of fun activities! The middle school class section 2B came to visit the students in 1A to share a story they wrote for them. The story was about the reasons why you should not be violent towards others, such as hitting and kicking. The head instructor from 1A, Robin, commented on this event: "It was a good experience for both groups; having the older students interact with the younger ones and tell them what's right from wrong." Not only did the kindergarten class get a visit from section 2B, but they also got to watch the high school class blow off the rockets they built. Robin said, "it brought back memories from the Pacific Science Center 'dangerous explosion' demonstration that my students saw. Science in action...

can't get any better than that! My students thoroughly enjoyed watching, even though some were a bit scared."

In 1B this week the children learned how to make hoa mai by blowing ink out of tubes to create the twisted branching trees in art class. During their math lesson they practiced their place values by completing worksheets. While learning about leadership and the qualities it takes to become a good leader the students composed a letter to Barack Obama. In this letter they informed him that he should, "build houses for homeless people and give food to foodless people." Overall, it was an educational and informative week for all the students.

A TRIP TO THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

The students of the Summer Youth Program visited the University of Washington campus this week as their third field trip. Students, parents and the staff toured the beautiful campus, including locations like the Husky Stadium, Drumheller Fountain, the Red Square, the Quad and the Husky Union Building (HUB). During the tour, everyone learned interesting facts about each of the locations, such as the

cherry trees in the Quad spells out "W" when viewed from above. They even got to visit one of the dormitory buildings and got to see what a dorm room looks like, where they would go to cook and hang out with other dorm residents. Everyone got a glimpse of what college life would be like and while it was tiring walking around the big campus, it was a fun and eye opening experience!



Top: Students in 1B making hoa mai. Middle: Group picture with the bronze busky dog by the Husky Stadium. Bottom: Group picture at the Drumheller Fountain.

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FIFTH WEEK FOR LEVEL 2 AND LEVEL 3 STUDENTS

This week in section 2A the kids were taught probability during math time. Our math instructor, John, brought in fake coins and a bag of dice for the students to test probability. After paring up, the students took turns flipping coins and rolling their dice while the other marked the outcome on a chart. The 3rd-5th graders really got into it and raced each other to see who could flip the coins faster! When the time was up, John had the students total their results and calculate their probability percentage. Not only did the kids have fun playing with fake money and dice, but

they learned a valuable lesson in percentages; not to mention how to flip a coin with lightening speed! In other news, last Thursday the kids had a crash course in muscle anatomy and the importance of stretching. After drawing a model of how muscles contract and relax, the instructor demonstrated several stretching techniques for some of the major muscle groups. The kids got to join in, and stretched to start the day off!

Class 2B made all kinds of origami during their art lesson including jumping

frogs, cameras, and ninja stars. During math time the students reviewed scientific notation and proceeded to work on consumer math problems. The highlight of the week was writing educational stories which were then read to the younger classes. Story topics included instructions for dealing with rabid dogs, reasons not to engage in violent behavior, and a rhyming piece discussing global warming from the perspective of an ice cube. It was a very creative week for class 2B.

It was another science filled week for level 3. The rockets that the students built last week were filled with water, pumped with air and

were launched off into the skies! Students from other levels came out to watch and enjoy the excitement. Instructor Long commented about the whole experience: "The audience enjoyed seeing the rockets get launched; as for the launchers, they were excited to be part of the show and willing to take the risk and get wet during the process!" Instructor Long demonstrated the principle of density and buoyancy with an experiment that the whole class participated in. The students also practiced their culture presentation skit and song for the upcoming performance and learned a great deal from our financial literacy presenters.



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Top Left: Students gather around as a Level 3 student demonstrate how to launch the water bottle rocket. Bottom Left: Instructor Kelley with a student from 2B presenting an educational story to 1B students. Bottom Right: A 2B student presenting an educational story to 2A students.