

Mandala School Newsletter
Volume XVI Issue IX
November 9, 2023



happy girls at rec



Sophie & Ama's salt dough map of New York

Vienna & Ama (below) working to solve 38×4 for a warm up. They had to show as many different ways to solve as they could. This activity comes from Jo Boaler's lessons *Fluency without Fear*. These activities, such as the one we did this week, build number sense without stress.



We are learning about biomes. I am studying the taiga biome. In the winter, temperatures can be as low as $-69!$ The trees are coniferous there which means they have needles and cones. The cone shape of the tree helps the snow slide off so it doesn't crush it. The Aurora Borealis happens in taiga. It is caused by solar wind. Particles from the sun collide with particles from Earth's atmosphere and release energy, which we see as light. It is beautiful! - Vienna

FORKS WANTED!



We are still missing the bulk of our silverware collection. Please return any utensils that may have accidentally made their way into your homes.



Milkweed Babies

We used milkweed pods and little beads for the head. We used a pipe cleaner for the body and we covered it in yarn and hot glued it into the pod. Then we tied on the milkweed seeds in a tiny bottle. By Sophie

Student of the Week: Stella

Stella is a 5th grader who loves to play video games. After school Stella enjoys writing and finishing her projects. If Stella could describe herself in one word it would be "strange." She looks up to Julie because Julie just likes to be herself. If Stella could go to one place in the world it would be Hollywood because she wants to be an actor.

Stella is a very organized person and loves knowing the future and being prepared. A goal she has for this year is to learn Spanish. Stella has recently moved up to the oldest group in Math and is learning more experienced and harder things, like exponents! Overall Stella is a great addition to Mandala!

Interview by Clara & Farrah



Sarah said, "In art we are making leaves. We are sewing them with felt. We are using the blanket stitch."

Georgie, Inti, Juniper, & Hazel have been learning about Sacagawea and her part in the Lewis & Clark expedition.

"Sacagawea went on an important expedition with her partners, Lewis and Clark. She was an indigenous woman." By Juniper

Georgie's drawing of Sacagawea



We are studying the east coast of the United States of America and working hard. We studied maps to help learn where the states are found. We also used a resource online to help study. The game made you press on the state that you think is correct. It then gave you a score on how you did. We are all trying to memorize as much as we can before Wednesday 11/15, that is the day of the quiz we are taking. - Julia



Independent research: The older kids were allowed to pick any topic to create a project. I am learning about cougars and making a slideshow. Cougars can't roar but they can purr. They live in the western part of North America, parts of South America, and Patagonia. - Elena

In math we watched a video about Islamic art patterns, using geometry, compasses and rulers to make patterns. We practiced making a hexagon, using only a compass and ruler. Our image ended up with a flower in the middle and we could erase parts to have petals on the outside. - Mira

