



Colchester Elementary School

News from the Nest

May 2019

CES Families,

As you know, Colchester Public Schools firmly believes in *creating innovative thinkers for a dynamic world*. One way we provide these learning opportunities is through integrated units. An example of this would be the inquiry-based unit that our second graders are currently involved in. Students are studying people in our world who were difference makers. With the information they gain, learners will be brainstorming ways they can be difference makers.

To integrate Social Studies and Science standards, second graders will become difference makers in a composting project. Through the innovation lab and media center, students will look at the waste from food in our cafeteria and try to solve the real-world problem of using unwanted food in a more efficient way. Through inquiry lessons, students will learn more about how we can compost at CES. They will analyze the waste and determine how and if reducing the waste in our school will benefit both our community and environment. Student input and ideas will be generated as they engineer the bins to collect the recycled materials.

Within the Science and Engineering standards, student will demonstrate that they can:

- Ask questions, make observations, and gather information about a situation people want to change to define a simple problem that can be solved through the development of a new or improved object or tool.
- Develop a simple sketch, drawing, or physical model to illustrate how the shape of an object helps it function as needed to solve a given problem.
- Analyze data from tests of two objects designed to solve the same problem to compare the strengths and weaknesses of how each performs.
- Plan and conduct an investigation to describe and classify different kinds of materials by their observable properties.
- Analyze data obtained from testing different materials to determine which materials have the properties that are best suited for an intended purpose.
- Make observations to construct an evidence-based account of how an object made of a small set of pieces can be disassembled and made into a new object.
- Construct an argument with evidence that some changes caused by heating or cooling can be reversed some cannot.

We appreciate your partnership and support as we help our learners through innovative and inquiry-based learning. Connections to family and school are so critical.

Your partners in education,

Judy O'Meara
Principal

Linda Rhodes
Assistant Principal

Upcoming Events

Monday, May 6-7th
Mystic Aquarium Visits Grade 2

Tuesday, May 7th
Kindergarten Field Trip to
Denison Nature Center

May 7th 5:00-7:00 pm
Square One Art Pick Up

Wednesday, May 8th 4:30-5:30 pm
WFSB on Town Green

Thursday, May 9th 6:45 pm
CES PTO Meeting

Monday, May 13th 7:00 pm
BOE Meeting at WJJMS

Thursday, May 16 – 17th
Drumming

May 20 – 24th
PTO Book Fair

Wednesday, May 22nd 5:30-6:30
CES Dino-Mite Family Night

Monday, May 27th
Memorial Day: No School

Friday, May 31st
Kindergarten Field Trip to Garde
Theater



