



Truro Central School's

PUMA PAGE

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FIRST AND SECOND GRADE BUDDIES

Each Friday, first and second graders meet to read and play math games together. It is an opportunity to practice reading and math fluency and a chance for them to form new friendships.



As part of the *Investigations* math program, students participate in Math Workshop. It's a time for experimentation, play and discovery regarding math concepts. For example, in first grade students are playing "How Many Am I Hiding?", which helps them understand the relationship between addition and subtraction. In this game, students have a set number of counters, such as 12. One student hides some of them, perhaps 5. The other student, looking at the visible counters (7) and knowing how many counters there were to begin with, says how many counters are hidden. Once they play a few rounds, students will notice that if they are starting with 12 counters, every time 5 are hidden, 7 are visible. Every time 7 are hidden, 5 are visible. The goal for students is to see the pattern, and automatically know that 7 plus 5 are equal to 12, 12 minus 5 is 7 and 12 minus 7 is equal to 5. This is just one of the games first graders can play with second graders to practice their fact fluency.

DESERT ANIMAL GUESSING GAME

Third graders performed their annual desert animal play this past month. Families and students throughout the building were given clues about these unique creatures, and then were asked to guess what animal each third grader was portraying. These unique animals included the kangaroo rat, elf owl, badger, rattlesnake, gila monster, cougar, jack rabbit and many more. This year, students created their own costumes to enhance their performance.



A LONG WALK TO WATER

Sixth graders have just finished reading *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park. It is the story of two Sudanese children, living twenty-three years apart who are dealing with the Second Sudanese Civil War and its aftermath. In the story, Nya walks miles daily to get water for her family.

In Africa, 90% of collecting fresh water for families is done by women. On average, they spend about 6 hours a day making several trips to and from a fresh water source, while carrying heavy containers on their heads. The nearest source of fresh water is typically 10,000 steps, or 3.6 miles (6 km) away. Coincidentally, this is about the same amount of time as a school day and our steps during our day equate to between 3 and 4 miles. To help students understand the importance of clean water, and how much we take it for granted, sixth grade students were asked to carry a gallon of water around school for a day. Through this activity, six grade students not only shared in a small way Nya's experience, but brought awareness to students and staff of the importance of clean drinking water.

Additionally, sixth graders have been monitoring their water usage at home and discussing their water footprint. A water footprint includes not only the water we use daily to shower, drink, and prepare food, but also the amount of water used to make the products we use. For example, a 17 oz. plastic bottle of cola has a total water footprint of 46

gallons. In other words, drinking one bottle of cola is like consuming 350 bottles of water. In addition to the water that makes up the liquid cola, water is used to grow the sugar beets, vanilla and coffee used to sweeten, flavor and caffeinate it. Additionally, water is needed to make the bottle, packaging and to ship it. If you would like more information, check out <https://waterfootprint.org/en/>.



THANKSGIVING FEAST

This November, Truro Central School celebrated Thanksgiving with members of the Truro community. Thank you to Susie Roderick, Gina Larkin, the Truro Educational Enrichment Alliance, and Truro Central School parents for hosting, cooking and serving!

