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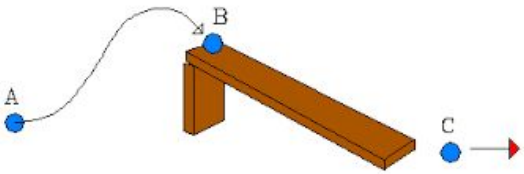
Home-School Connection #18

2/2/17



THE BIRD OF THE MONTH IS THE CARDINAL: Cardinals do not migrate, so you should be able to see and/or hear them all year. First, go to this site to learn more about them. https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Northern_Cardinal/sounds. Then,, listen to their bird call and songs. Try to imitate the call for your parents. Talk about what you learned about them. What makes them similar or different to other birds we have studied so far?

ENERGY: We are learning more about energy and how it transfers from place to place and between objects in many ways. For example, You had a chance to experience what happens when two steel spheres collide. Describe the different observable forms of energy you observed. If you jump up and down, the energy you got from food turns into motion energy, you create heat energy, and our downstairs neighbors can hear the sound energy. This lead to our experiment!



EXPERIMENTS; I asked all of you to stand up and jump. I asked if we could use our class to prove how high the average person jumps. You said one class would not prove that. We talked about what we would need to make an accurate **claim** with **evidence** and **reasoning**. That lead us to the experiment we are doing now using the wooden ramps, the golf ball and marble. The question is which one

of those spheres goes farther? Describe the variable, control group, the materials, the steps you are taking and what you are learning about making the test fair. How does friction, weight, size, shape or the materials you are using affect your experiment? How does this connect to the olympic sport the luge? . What were your predictions? What would your parent predict would go farther? Why?

DEMOCRACY/VOTING: Speaking of fair, our class does a lot of voting.. That is because our class is a democracy! Your ideas and input matter. What does that word mean to you? What does that word mean to your parents? How would 5S be different if we were not a democracy? Ask your parents if they have ever traveled to or lived somewhere that is not a democracy. If you want something to change in our world, do you think you have power to change it?

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION: This week, we are looking at the amount of plastics pouring into landfills and into the ocean. If you have time, show your families some of the little videos and information we have looked at so far on Google Classroom or on our website:

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<http://5starkdriscoll.weebly.com/super-science-2016-17.html> Did any of it surprise you? Do you think our class has the power to make changes?

RIVER TABLE NAME: Another choice we are making in 5S is what to name our rivertable. The first round and 2d round ideas are on Google Classroom. Ask your parents which ones they like. Let them know that "Hidden Burger" got the most votes, but I (Ms. Stark) did some research into colonial food and can't find burgers. Perhaps the class will choose some type of other hidden food, or pick another name. What are you hoping for?

WORLD LANGUAGE CHOICES: And, one more choice you have to make soon is what world language (Spanish or Chinese) you might take for middle school.

BUD NOT BUDDY: It is great fun reading this story to you. You have a lot of insight into what Bud must be thinking about and hoping for as he heads to the Hooverville. As your parents about what they were taught about the Depression in America. Describe the Hooverville and the Mission where Bud got to eat because of a 'fake family'. Is it hard to imagine this happening in our country?



DREAMS: On Wednesday, as we sat down to read Bud NOT Buddy, we got into a discussion about dreams. It was quite a talk. You described experiences with deja vu, nightmares, lucid dreaming (when you wake up in your dream), dreams that have come true and other funny and memorable dream experiences. Why do you think this topic burst into our classroom like that? What did it make you think about? Ask your parents if they have ever taken time to think about or discuss their

dreams. Tell them about that Sumatran tribe that talks about their dreams every morning and how the dreams can help them face fears. Do you think talking about your dreams could help you change or face a fear?

SKITS: They are coming along. Some of the questions you had on the headline story were: How far are you in your skits? Do you need to add more facts? What would Alexander Hamilton say if he saw your skit? Would you like acting in or directing skits more?

Specials: Art, music, C.O.B., P.E. Chinese , Something else? _____

Due MONDAY : We made a time to do this on:_____ Parent Signature & Comments:

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Student Rating (1-5) Please say why and which topics lead to the most in-depth discussions.

