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ECS NEWSLETTER 4/2/18

Asa Sevelius <asa_sevelius@psbma.org> Mon, Apr 2, 2018 at 7:26 AM
Draft

ECS Newsletter

4/2/18

ECS Mission: To Collaborate with PSB educators to create rigorous, relevant, engaging learning for all students

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Goals of the Public Schools of Brookline

Goal 1: Every Student Achieving

Goal 2: Every Student Invested in Learning

Goal 3: Every Student Prepared for Change and Challenge

Goal 4: Every Educator Growing Professionally

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Psbma

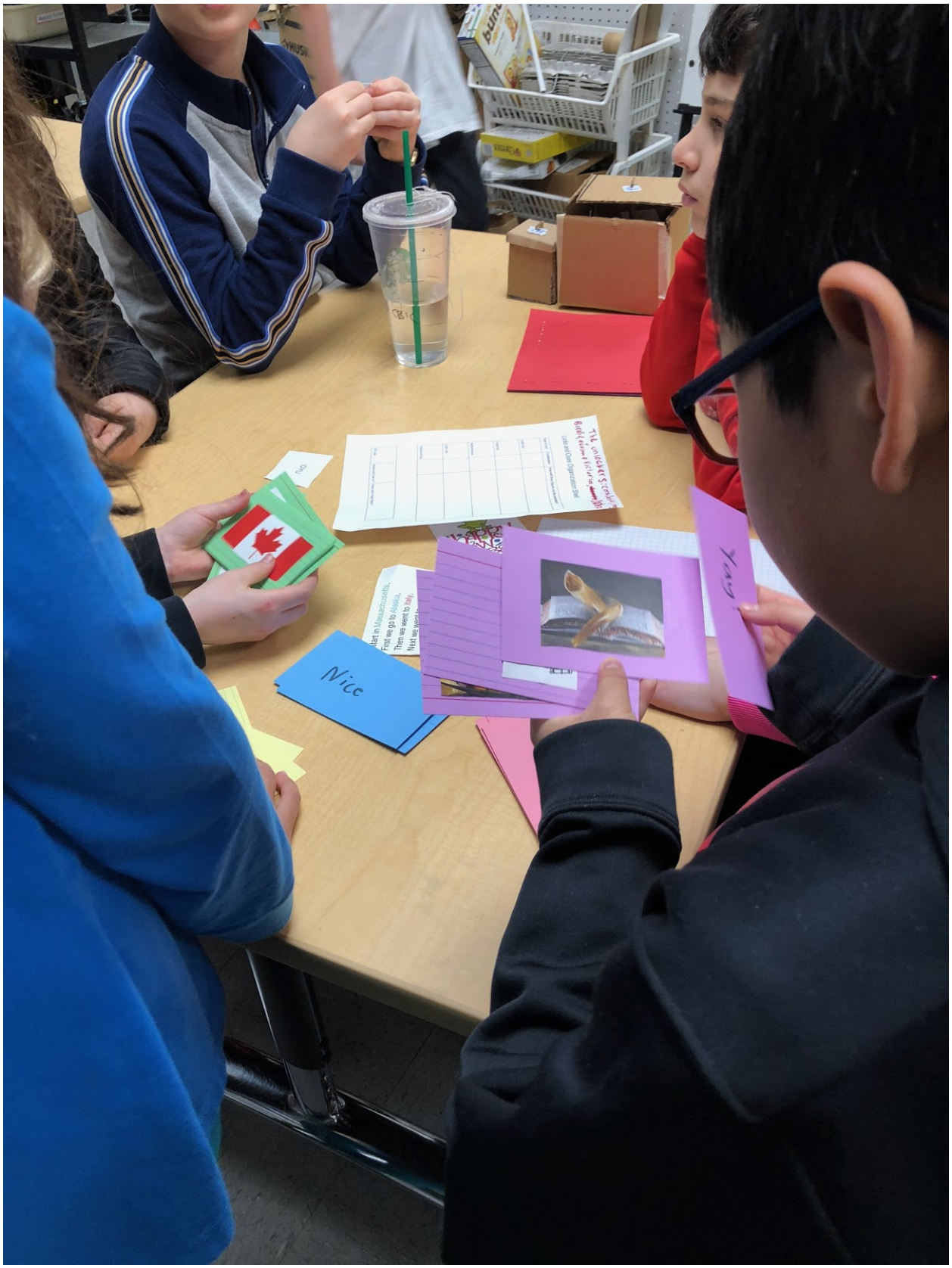
Quote of the Week

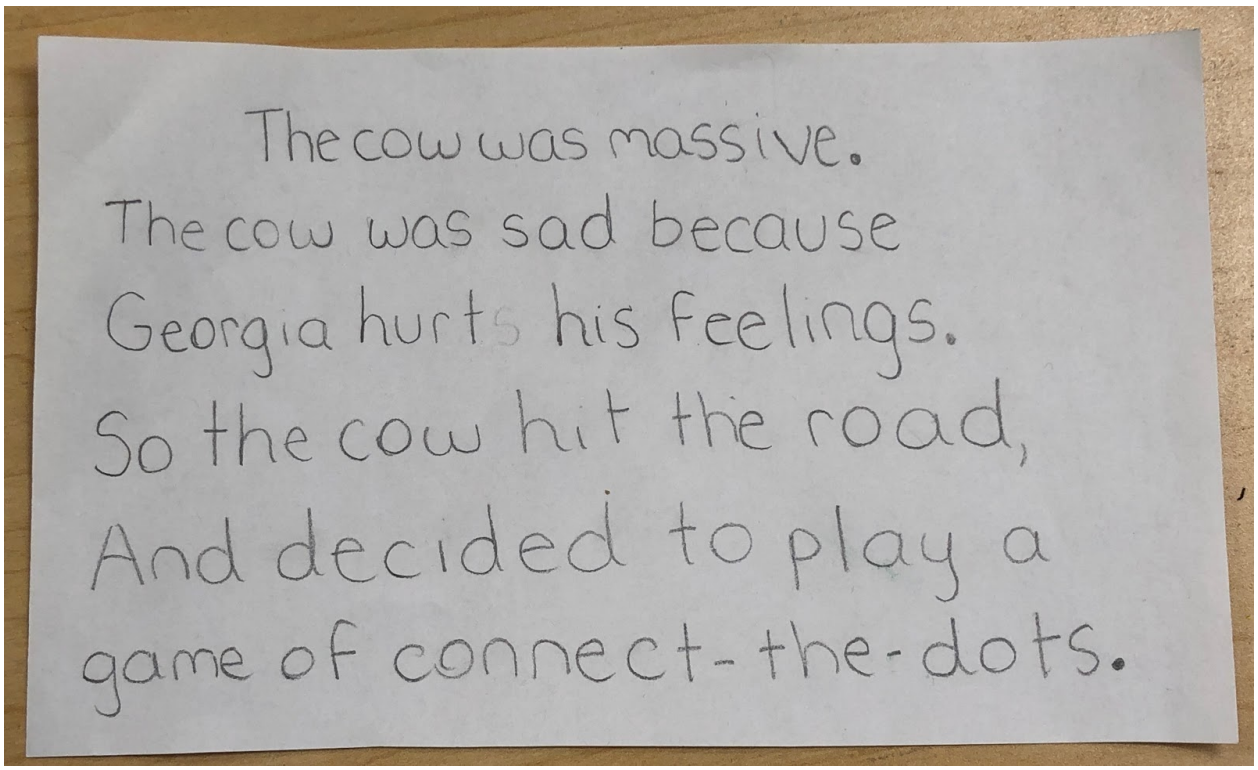
Science is basically an inoculation against charlatans.
- Neil deGrasse Tyson

Current Goings On

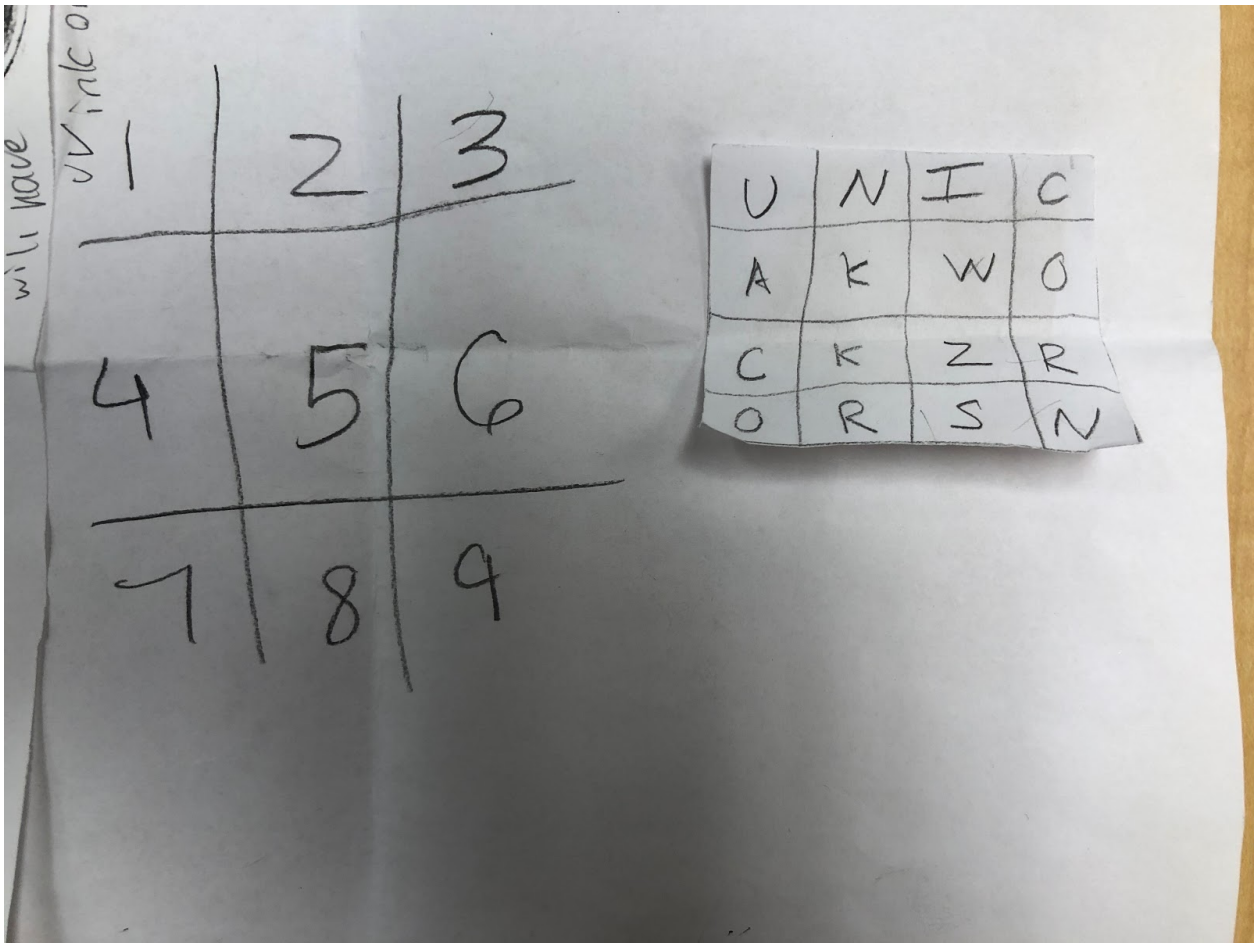
Fifth Graders Create, and Play Their own Break-Out Boxes

Break-Out boxes are a lot like the very popular “escape rooms” that many people love. In escape rooms, you are invited into a room in which many clues are hidden. In order to “escape” the room, you need to solve the clues to unlock the locks. In Break-out boxes, you need to solve puzzles to break IN to the box for a prize. Fifth grade students played a break-out box provided by Breakout.edu, and then chose to design their own break-out boxes. These photos are from game day, where they played other teams’ break-out boxes. Some of the boxes had a theme like “US colonies”. They all had very sophisticated clues and it was a lot of fun problem solving.

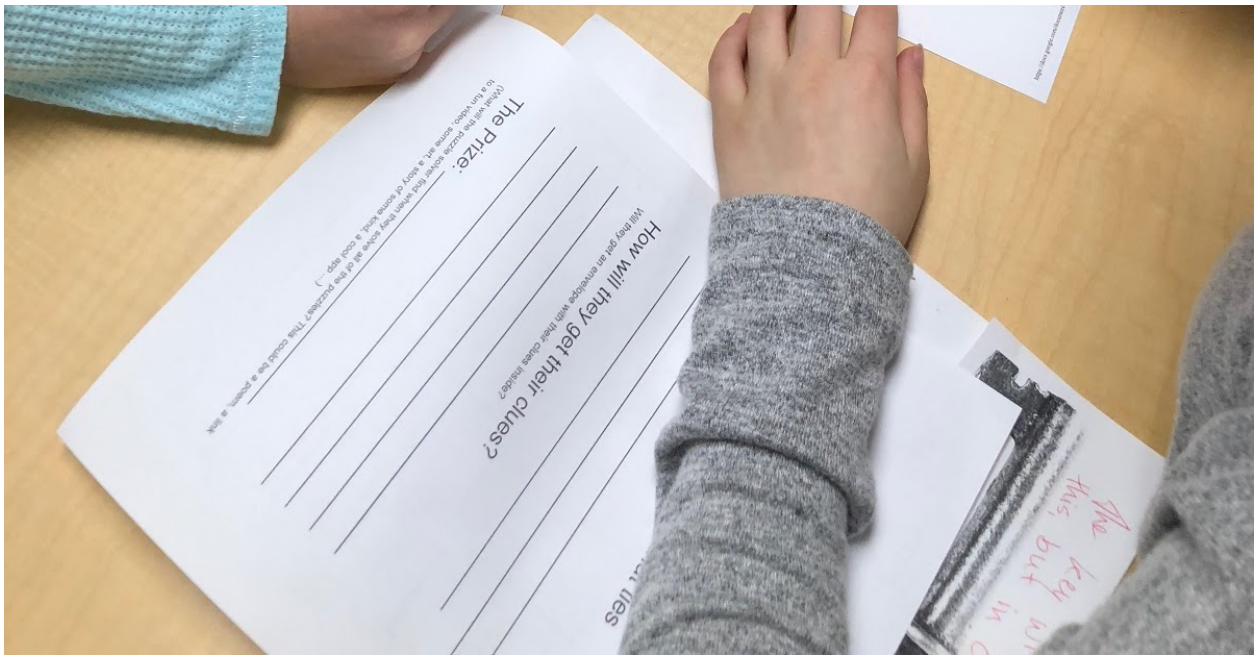

Nice

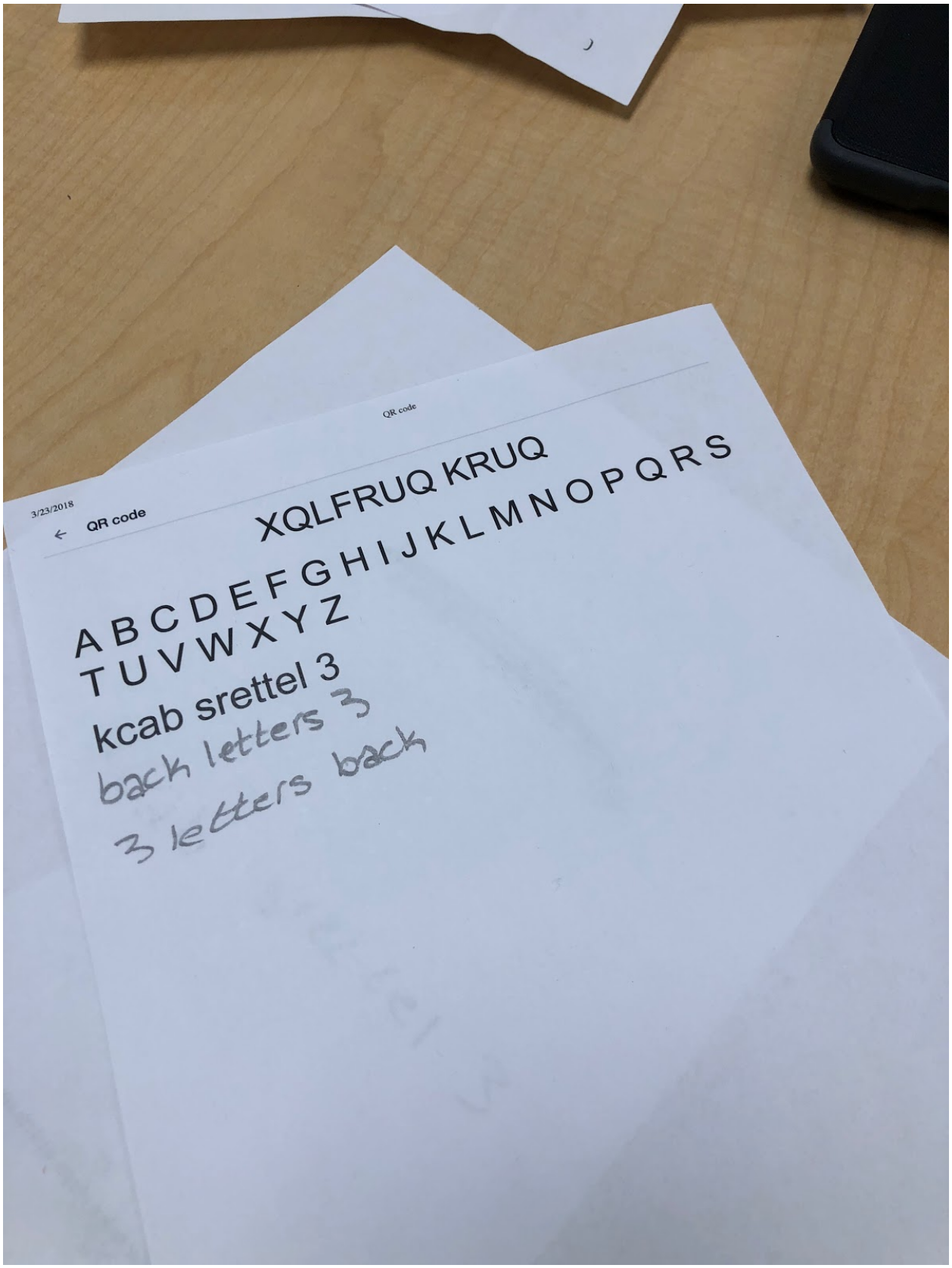

The cow was massive.
The cow was sad because
Georgia hurts his feelings.
So the cow hit the road,
And decided to play a
game of connect-the-dots.


OYU
EPHL
NTO
FOURTH
Locks and Clues Organization
Type of lock
Combination
How will they figure o
4-digit lock
3-digit lock
Multidirectional
Color Lo


1 2 3
4 5 6
7 8 9
U N I C
A K W O
C K Z R
O R S N


Locks and Clues Organization Sheet
XQLFRUQ KRUQ
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRS
TUVWXYZ
kcab srettel 3
back letters 3
3 letters back
kcab streetlp
hC2b sreteel


The Prize:
How will they get their clues?
Will they get an envelope with their clues inside?



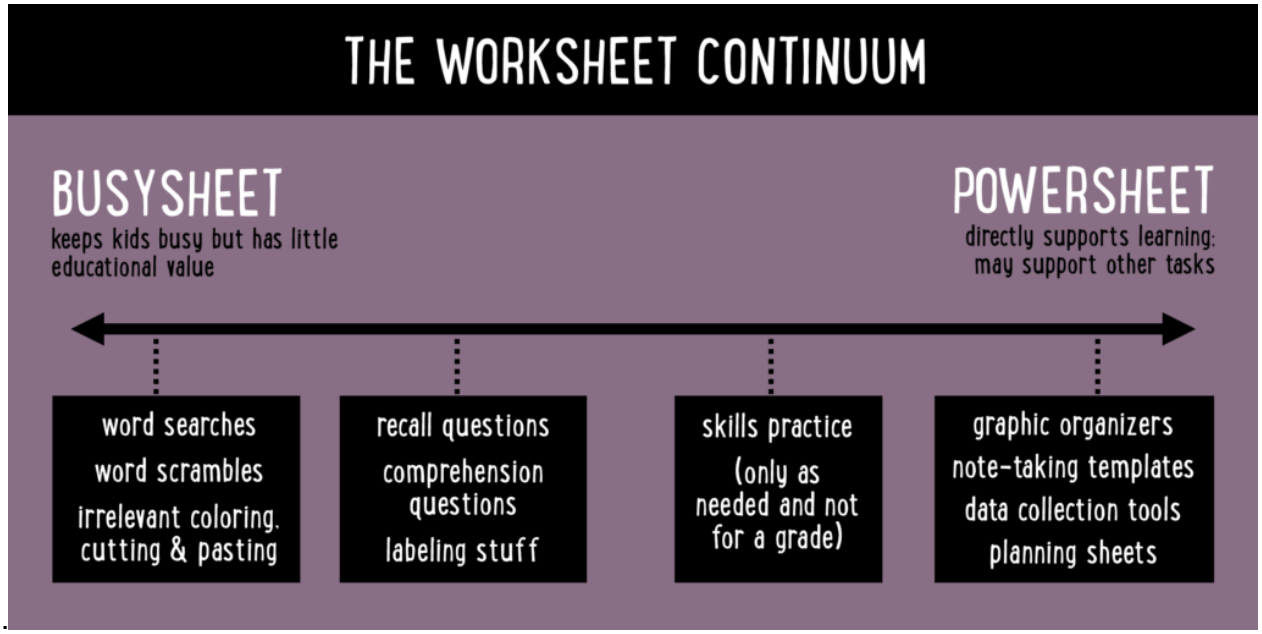
Polymer Science Lunch Group

This group came to me to ask if they could have a lunch and work on making slime. We're exploring the properties of different slime recipes.

Articles and Resources

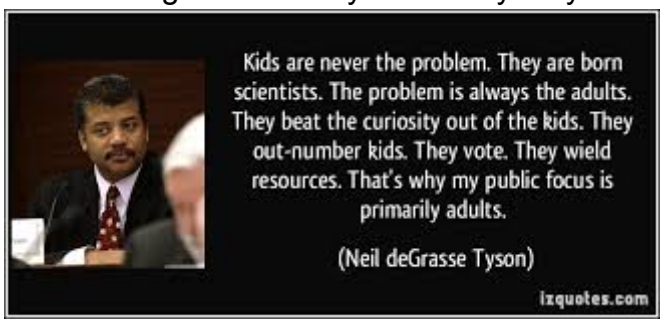
Frickin' Packets

Do we lean on packets and worksheets too much? This is an excellent, articulate article with many solutions and a powerful video.



Kids Are Born Scientists

Watch this great video by one of my very favorite people, Neil DeGrasse Tyson



Guiding Students to a Healthy Math Identity

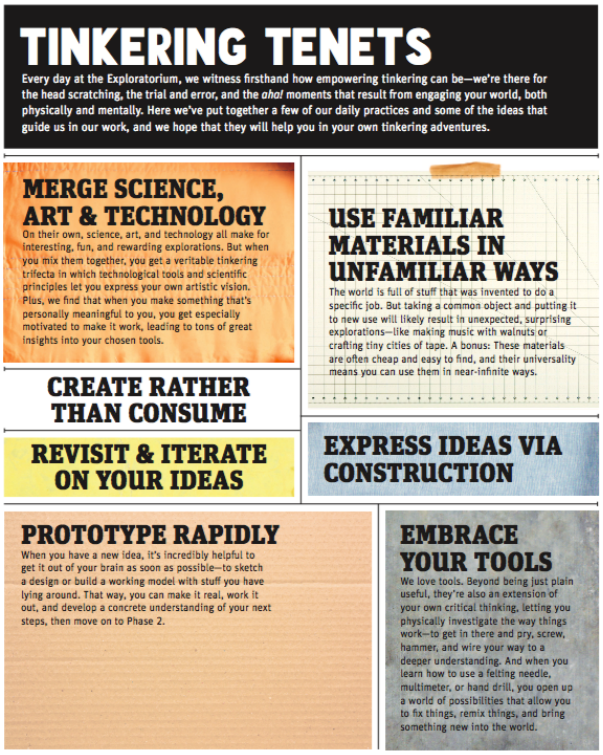
Young mathematicians need to see that the keys to success are passion and dedication, not speed and always being right.
It's about the fun, magic and the art of math!

Frameworks for Reflection

Students get a metacognitive boost by pausing to think back on how and why they performed learning tasks.

The Art of Reflection

Portfolios allow students to regularly reflect on their learning process—deepening their connection to content.



Equity/Every Student Achieving

Why Are Black Students Punished So Often?

How can this information inform us about how to fix the achievement gap?

From the article: … suspensions are helping to drive the achievement gap between white and minority students. Suspensions and expulsions are also linked to the disproportionate numbers of minority students in the criminal justice system.

Teaching Tolerance - Educator Grants

Who has a good idea for this grant?

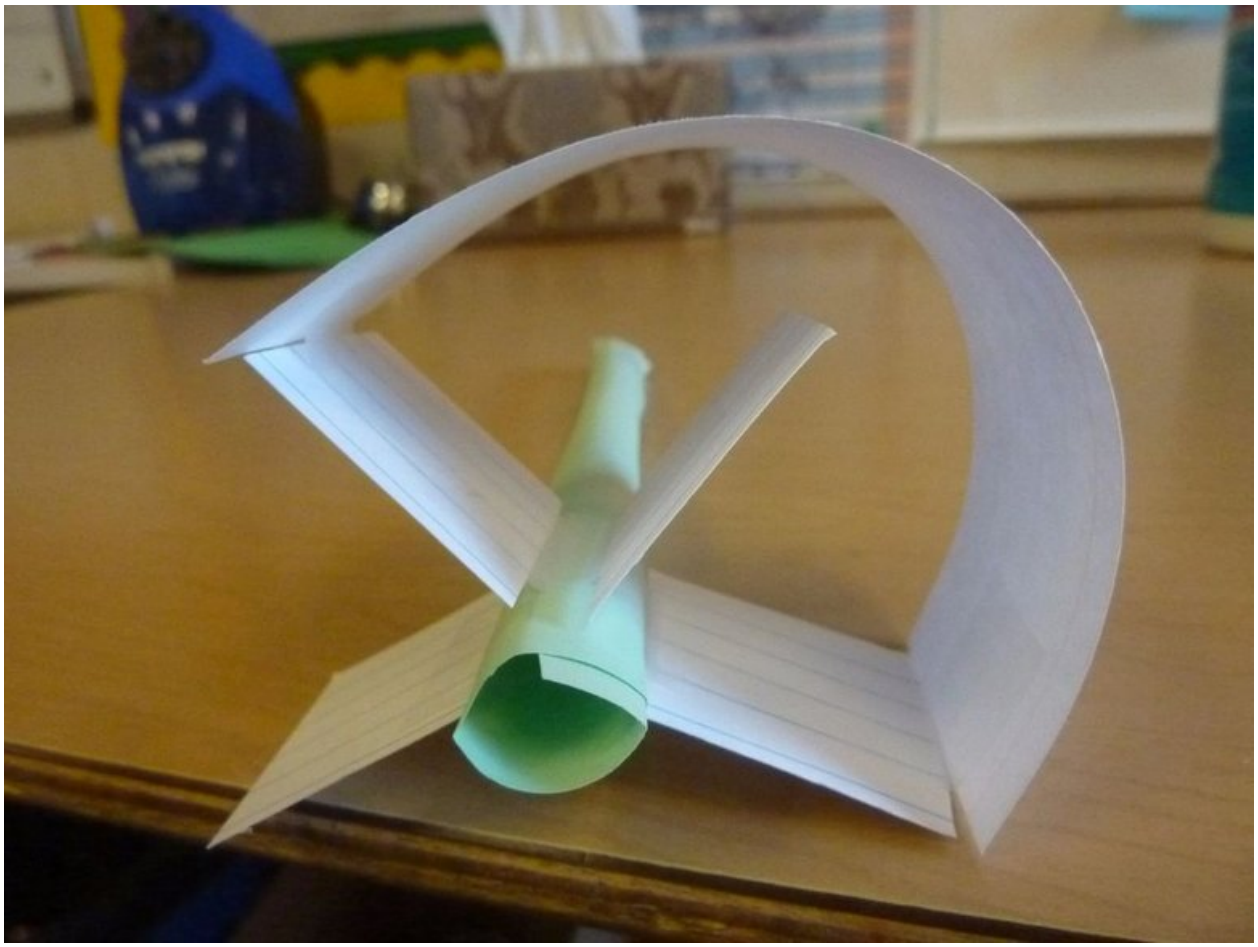
From the article: These projects offer teachers the resources necessary to create safe and welcoming classrooms that reflect the outcomes described in the Teaching Tolerance Social Justice Standards. Preference is given to projects that emphasize student action and promote student voice.

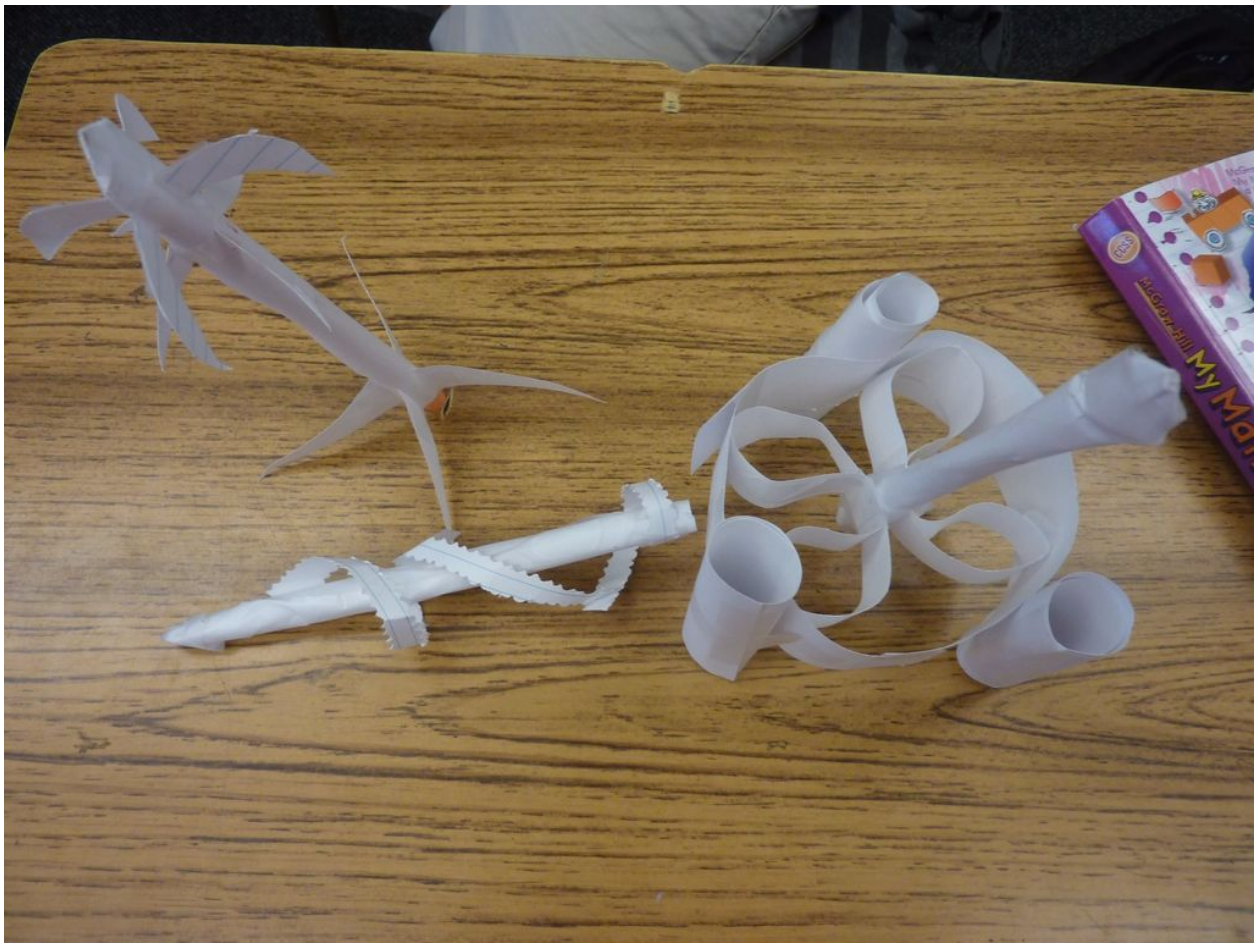
Tinker Time

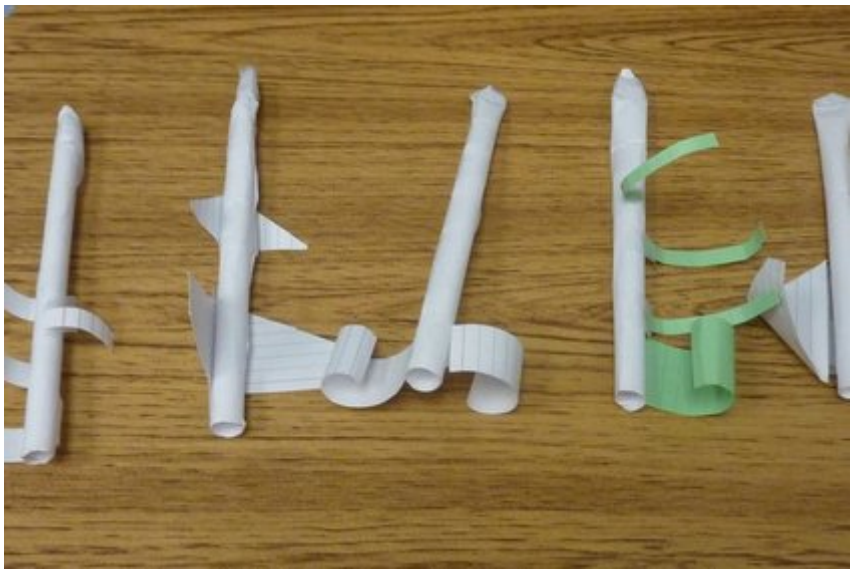
Paper Straw Rockets

These are fun and easy to make with materials that are easy to find. I made these with 5th graders after school, and they messed around with getting the rockets to do different things (spin, curve, go long distance,hit a target) by changing the fins. We had a blast (pun intended!) (photos below are not from my group).

From the article: Curiosity. Imagination. Perseverance. And FAIL SPECTACULARLY!







Opportunities

Women in STEM: Volunteer at STEM Pathway's SET in the City,Apr. 7 (Thank you Newton STEM)

Women in STEM fields are invited to participate on April 7 in the 10th annual SET in the City, a program for girls in Grades 9-12 to explore academic paths and careers in STEM. Volunteers in STEM careers are needed for the program's Science Information Bazaar, to be held 10:30-11:30AM in the Photonics Center at Boston University. There will be tables set up for you to bring some demonstration, exhibit, poster, or computer application to share with the girls. Register online to volunteer. For more information, email setinthecity@bostongirlsstem.org.
