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10/12/17 ECS NEWSLETTER

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ECS Newsletter

10/12/2017

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

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



@ECSbrookline

@tanyagregoire

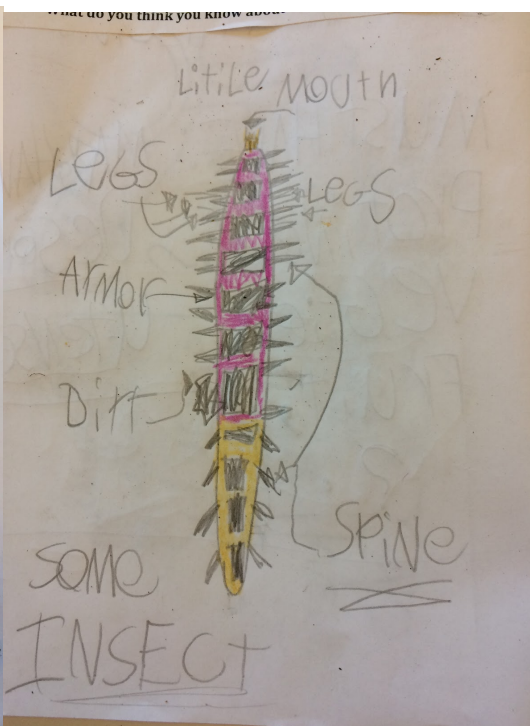
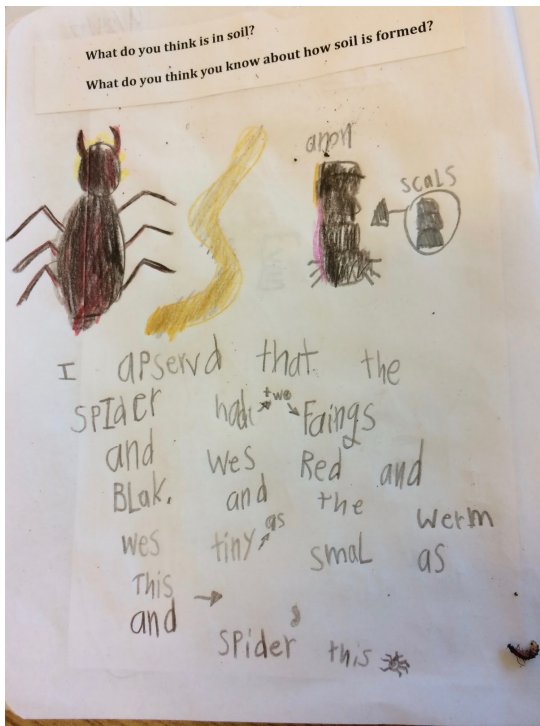
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Psbma

Current Projects

How is Soil Made? Grade 2

Students explore local “wild” soil from my yard. What did they find? A lot of critters; worms, centipedes, millipedes, ants, spiders, grubs. They also found evidence of plants such as roots, seeds, sticks and pieces of a log. Some found rocks and eggs. They will continue to wonder: How is soil made?



Maker Thinking/Critical and Creative Thinking

10 Tips for Creating a Fertile Environment for Kids' Creativity and Growth

From the article: Supporting children's development is always a balancing act: how much structure, how much freedom; when to step in, when to step back; when to show, when to tell, when to ask, when to listen.

[Stop Teaching Students What to Learn, and Start Teaching Them How to Learn](#)

From the Article For more than a century, we've been creating an industrial workforce of human automatons, built for the purpose of performing routine labor not yet doable by machines. And we've been operating with the mindset that we should teach students the same way we program actual machines. In the 20th century, schooling became a process of information upload in which students are to be filled with all the appropriate data and applications to function as cogs in the machinery of factories and offices, or in the parlance of today, as walking hard drives.

From Matt R.:

[Top 10 Skills Middle Schoolers Need to Thrive, and How Parents Can Help](#)

"There is no manual to develop 'soft' skills like perseverance and resilience...most kids learn through trial and error."

[What Creativity Really is - and Why Schools Need it](#)

Recently 2nd graders at Runkle were asked to define "creativity." This article reminds me of the importance of that experience.

"In this time of global technological change and sustainability challenges, we need to increase creativity levels in the next generation, to ensure the innovations that will keep us afloat." The author also describes 3 way to cultivate creativity in the classroom.

[The STEAM-Powered Classroom](#)

This is an excellent read on why it is important to integrate problem-based learning across the curriculum. It also provides a number of STEAM-PBL lesson ideas.

Equity

[Girls and Science a Dream Deferred](#)

From the Article: The 21st century requires a new kind of learner -- not someone who can simply churn out answers by rote, but a student who can think expansively and solve problems resourcefully. As a scientist and inventor, a longtime professor at Yale University, and a woman who has always been passionate about getting kids excited about science, I believe that the key to this goal is to improve science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education. These disciplines are rooted in the kind of thinking that is now critical. One of the most important aspects of this shift is to fix the false presumption that girls are not as good as boys in science and math.

Tinker Time

[Get Inspired by this Jaw Dropping Cardboard Armor for Kids](#)

What costumes would your kids build with cardboard? These examples were most likely created by an adult. Your students are likely to come up with “jaw-dropping” creations in their own way. When working with kids and cardboard - I usually help them cut it with a box cutter. I ask them to draw a line where they want the cut, and I cut it for them. It helps to have a cutting mat, or to cut it against another piece of cardboard. The best thing for joining cardboard is masking tape or hot glue guns. Duct tape is not great for cardboard joining.



[Spooky Mirror Writing](#)

This uses so many different parts of your brain that it makes it itch - in a good way! It is also great for Halloween decorations



Rocket Mouse

It's not rocket science.... Oh wait. It is! What is the physics here?

