



AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM STUDENTS WORKING WITH LISA BOGARD FROM LOWE-VOLK

BES Afterschool Program: December 2018 Newsletter

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Tribes Plus

This month we began our Tribes Plus program in the Afterschool Program. Tribes are miniature student clubs that meet monthly in the Afterschool Program. We currently have five tribes: yoga taught by Mrs. Hawkins, crafts led by Mrs. Kohls, robotics and coding with Mrs. Powers, Legos and STEM ran by Mrs. Mutchler, and sports coached by Mr. Osko. Each month students will rotate to a new tribe so that by the end of the Afterschool Program year, each student will have experienced every tribe. At the beginning of this month, we introduced all five tribes to the students so that they could learn what each tribe is.

For our yoga session this month, students had the opportunity to create and paint pictures after completing a relaxing yoga

exercise. Next, Mrs. Kohls taught students about Native American culture while they made a dream catcher craft. Mrs. Powers introduced our students to Ozobots, which are tiny coding robots. Students were challenged to move their Ozobots in various directions. In Lego club, students built Lego sets. Finally, Mr. Osko encouraged students to aim high while trying to throw balls into baskets.



Community Partners

Although it was a short month for the Afterschool Program, we

were able to welcome three of our community partners in to the program this month to do some hands-on activities with our kids.

First, the Crawford Success Center's operations manager Amanda Sheets worked with students on their "soft skills" to help them become better communicators. One way she helped students improve their communication skills was with a snowball activity. Students wrote a fact about themselves on a piece of paper before crumpling it into a "snowball." Then, they picked up someone else's snowball and read the fact aloud while trying to guess who the fact belonged to.

In another activity, Amanda had students look at pictures and talk about the style of communication that was being displayed in the picture. Then, students found pictures in magazines to make

their own display of communication styles.



We also had a visit from Lisa Bogard who is a naturalist at Lowe-Volk Park. Lisa led our students in a "Deadly Links" activity, an interactive food chain lesson about producers and consumers in the wild. Students were split into three groups: grasshoppers who eat grass with possible toxins in them, shrews who eat grasshoppers and the toxins they consumed, and red-tailed hawks who eat shrews. This activity taught students about primary and secondary consumers, safe foods versus toxins, and decomposers.

Lastly, Desiree Levering from the Marion-Crawford Prevention Program led our students in a Hands Full and Thankful activity. Desiree began a conversation about being thankful while students wrote about who and what they are thankful for on a hand turkey. Students shared what they wrote on their hand turkeys as well as talked about what it means to be thankful, nice



things that people do for us, and how to give back to others.

Enrichment

One of the most exciting enrichment activities our students experienced this month was decorating the Afterschool Program tree. Students even made their own decorations for the tree!

Students also continued their Australian Aboriginal art project with Mr. Feck as well as finished their fossils with Ms. Sutter.

Bowling



This month we were able to take sixty Afterschool Program students to Suburban Lanes to

bowl. While they enjoyed bowling, they also learned how to keep score and the difference between a strike and a spare.



Upcoming Events:

- AM/PM Program resumes Jan. 7th
- No AM/PM program due to conferences on Jan. 10th
- No school/program on Jan. 21st due to MLK Jr. Day
- *Seussical the Musical Jr.* Mar. 29-31st in BES auditorium. Auditions are Dec. 17th & 18th at BES at 6:00PM. Contact BES office for more information.