Ridgewood Avenue Spring Update 2021

GT Grades 3-6

Despite the forecast, live like it's spring.

It has been a long time since our first unit on Space Automata. Each student crafted a cardboard box automaton reflecting a specific space event or spacecraft. Finished projects gave way to exploring with a musical version. With the hybrid and virtual schedules, we are still sharing the 4 music boxes so all can have their try.

Please search at home as all bags with music boxes have not yet been given to every student nor have all bags and materials been returned.

Our last literary unit will explore various topics...

Grade 3: *The Great American Dust Bowl* via a graphic novel of the same name will lead to an online game.

Grade 4: A Revolutionary Spy novel, *Sophia's War*, will spark intrigue, as will codes and ciphers.

Grade 5: The documentary novel will inspire getting at the full story with *Nothin' But the Truth.*

Grade 6: The life of refugees will spill into the game of soccer as the novel focuses on *Outcasts United*.

Engineering By Design Units

As third graders explore *Water Sustainability*, other grade levels delved into projects, noted below, dealing with solar energy, nanotechnology, and biomimicry. See below.

When there's a huge solar energy spill- it's called a "nice day."

Solar Vehicles constructed Gr. 4

"Nanotechnology in medicine is going to have a major impact on the survival of the human race."

-Bernard Marcus

Lumitall Lamps folded and fashioned after carbon nanotubes Gr.5

What if, every time I started to invent something, I asked "How would nature solve this?" -Janine Benyus

Lumiball Lamps folded resembling biomimetic architecture Gr. 6