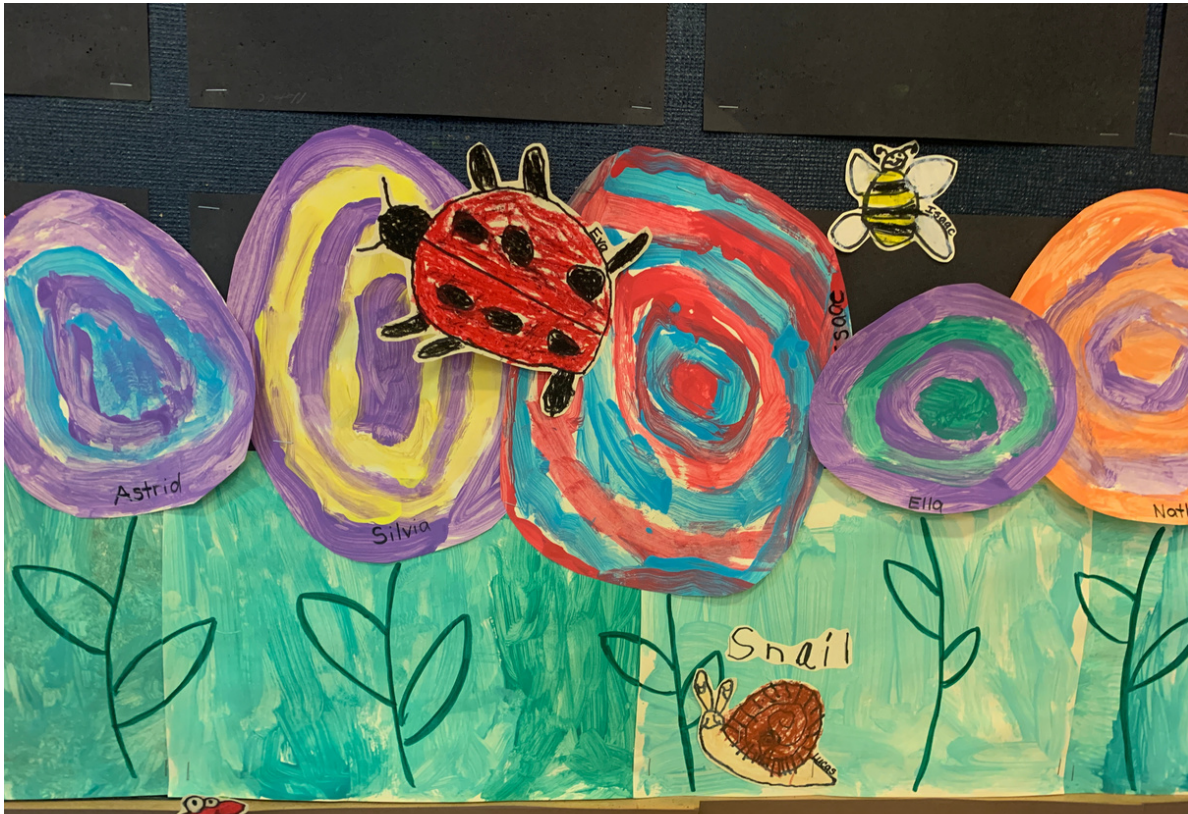


Learning Highlights

Issue No. 4 | March/April 2022



During the month of March and April students identified and studied about signs of Spring!

Blair Cares For this Place

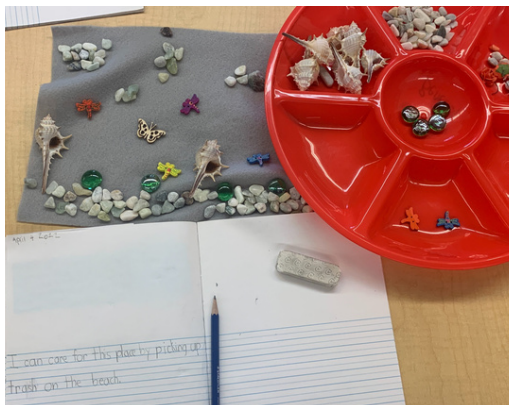
During the month of April our students focussed on learning about environmental sustainability and how to care for the place that we learn and live. Our community also collected over 5000 bottles and cans as a way to show care for our planet during the month of April. With warmer weather we have planted vegetables in our garden plots to learn about the importance of growing our own food and what plants need to thrive and survive.



Connections to the Curriculum

Literacy: Story Workshop

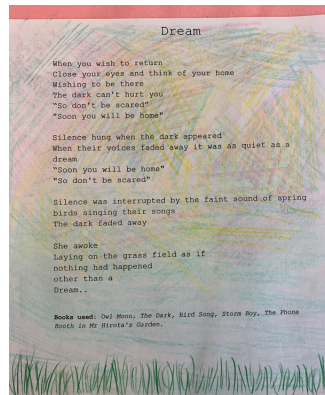
Div. 7 has been focussing on Care for Place into their story writing during Story Workshop. Using "loose parts", materials that help the children visualize and tell their stories, they created an image of how to Care for This Place. Then, they wrote about it in their journals. Using hands on materials to help generate ideas for writing helps all children to be more successful writers.



Literacy: Picture Book Projects

The students in Div. 2 have just completed a Picture Book Project. A study of picture books is an excellent way to learn about different cultures, different types of stories, and different artistic techniques. The students read and responded to many different picture books and recreated art work from several of them. They interviewed teachers in the school about reading and the types of books they enjoy. They also wrote Found Poems.

Picture Book Review 2022		
Title	Options in the Sky	Author: Sami Savary
Date Published	2022	Illustrator: Malika Khatoun
Short Synopsis of the book (what is about and what genre is it)	<p>The protagonist is a young girl who lives in a small town. She is very curious and loves to explore. She goes on a journey to find out what is in the sky. She meets a man who tells her that the sky is full of secrets. She goes on a journey to find out what is in the sky. She meets a man who tells her that the sky is full of secrets.</p>	
Descriptions of the artwork in the entire book or a specific image	<p>The artwork is very colorful and detailed. It shows a young girl with a backpack and a man with a hat. The background is a mix of blue and white, representing the sky. There are also some stars and clouds.</p>	
Big Idea(s) It takes time to find where you belong	<p>My Rating of this picture book was 5/5 because...</p>	



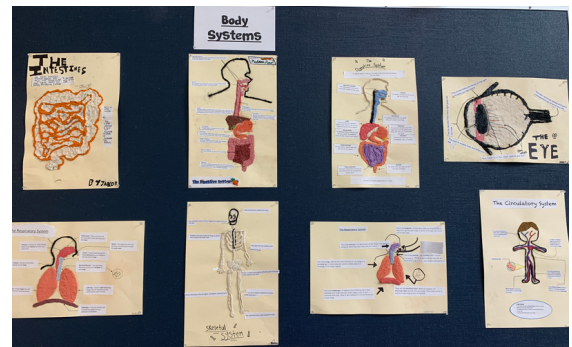
Literature Circles in Div. 5

During Literature Circles students have the opportunity to read fiction and non-fiction material. They also can read traditional books (novels) or read using an ipad. There are many accessibility features on an ipad to assist in reading for students that may require some support. For example, the text can be read aloud to the student as they are reading and words can be looked up and definitions read out to students as they are reading to increase comprehension.



Science: Body Systems

Div. 4 has been learning about Body systems. One of the Big Ideas in Science in Grade 5 is multicellular organisms have organ systems that enable them to survive and interact within their environment. They have been exploring the question of how the systems of the human body work together? They studied the Digestive, Musculo-skeletal, Respiratory and Circulatory systems. The students used plasticine to build their body system to create a 3-D representation of their body system.



Connections to the Curriculum

Fine Arts Across the Curriculum

Cherry Blossoms and Haiku Poetry -Div. 3

The students studied the beautiful cherry blossom trees on our school grounds to inspire them to create these stunning paintings. They also wrote Haiku's, a Japanese poem which consists of three phrases in a 5,7,5 syllable pattern that take nature as their subject.



Cherry Blossoms- Div. 7



Literacy and Art: We Are Grateful For...

Division 6 has been focussing on Social Emotional Learning and integrating this w theme with writing and art. They spend each Wednesday afternoon learning outdoors to gain an appreciation for the land that we live and the natural world. Their writing shares their gratitude for nature and what it gives them.

Kindness Images By Div.10

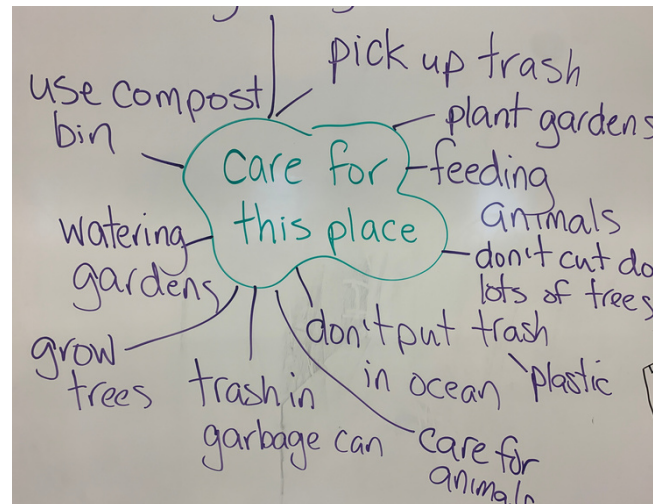


Social Emotional Learning

Our school will continue to focus on our current school goal: **What social and emotional competencies, supports and environments do our learners need to help them thrive and learn in school and in life?**

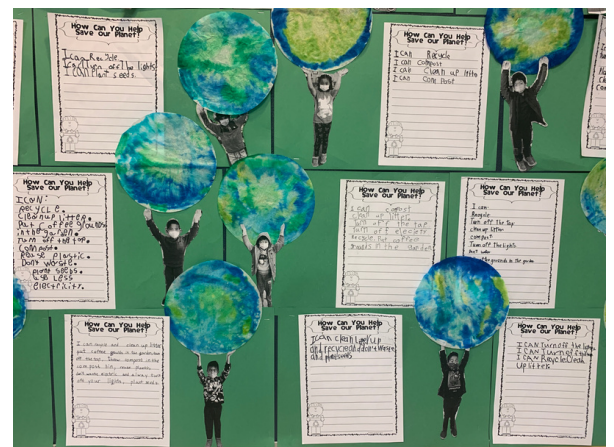
This year we will be focusing on using consistent language throughout the school that will focus on a Social Emotional Framework: **Blair Cares: Care for Self, Care for Others and Care for this Place.**

During the month of April teachers and students focussed on Care for this Place as Earth Day is on April 22, 2022. Many classes discussed and brainstormed ways we could take care of our planet Earth and Blair school grounds.



During Pink Shirt Day we created Caring Messages that can be taken down and passed on to others to brighten up their day! Positive affirmations are tools that we can use to build confidence in ourselves and one another. We are also "Catching" kids that are "caring" and announcing these random acts of kindness over the daily announcements.

Using the Blair Cares Framework, students' will be learning about and demonstrating ways to Care for Self, Care for Each Other, and Care for Place.



Ways We Can Help to Save our Planet: By Div. 8