

February 2019

Barkell Elementary

Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



Principal Announcements

- The 4th annual Showcase of Excellence is from 4-6:15 on March 14th. Please join us for a wide variety of student work and activities. The PTO will be serving pizza.
- Lego Club meets after school on Thursdays and runs from 3:25-4:30.
- I would like to remind everyone that we go out for recess when the wind chill is zero or above. Please make sure your child comes to school with proper winter attire. It is also a good idea to write your child's name on their hats, gloves, snow pants, etc. We find these items all around the school and are able to return those items when they are properly labeled.
- Please consider helping out our PTO. They do a lot for our school and could use a few volunteers to help with various events. You do not need to come to all of the PTO meetings to be a volunteer. They are looking for individuals who can help once or twice per year.
- Please don't hesitate to contact me if there is anything I can do to help.

Sincerely,



Upcoming Events:

- 3/13 Early Dismissal (1:46)
- 3/14 Showcase of Excellence (4:00-6:15)
- 3/25-3/29 Spring Break



Bulldog Engineers



Karma gets ready to launch.

Do you want to learn how to make a catapult? We'll I'm going to tell you how to make an awesome catapult. So you need six wooden craft sticks five rubber bands and a plastic or a wooden spoon. Then you take five wooden sticks and wrap one rubber band on one side and do the same to the other. Next you take the spoon and tuck the end of the spoon under the rubber band and then you have a catapult!



Catapults are displayed on a table before the launch.



Tyler, Connor, and Carsen prepare to launch their projectiles.

What I learned about making the catapult is that don't let stress get to you and you can take a break and relax for a minute. I also learned about pushes and pulls. An example is if you push a cart well it's a push. I also have learned is how to make a catapult. Now you know how to make an awesome catapult and what I learned as I made the catapult.

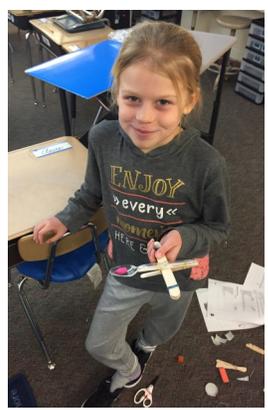
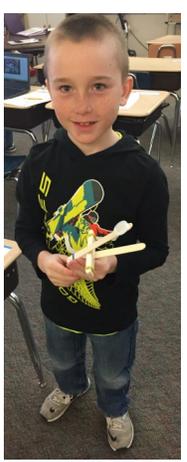
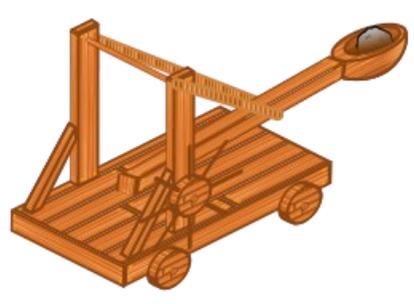
By Aubrey Ambrose



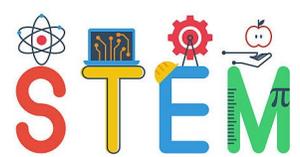
Students take time out from their fun to pose for a quick photo.



Abby and Claire work together building their catapults.



Eleri and Carsen show us their catapults.



Gage makes last second adjustments to his catapult.



Brenna and Kylie work on their projects.



Students used the Bay Window to set up their catapulting area.



Family Science Night



Cale puts his design skills to the test in a fun STEM activity.

Family Science Night was February 6th and many Barkell Elementary families braved the cold weather to enjoy a night of fun, hands on science activities. Students learned about ecosystems, electricity, trees, etc. through engaging activities.



Students had fun learning about animal adaptations.



Early elementary students enjoy a game of Wildlife Pic-tionary.

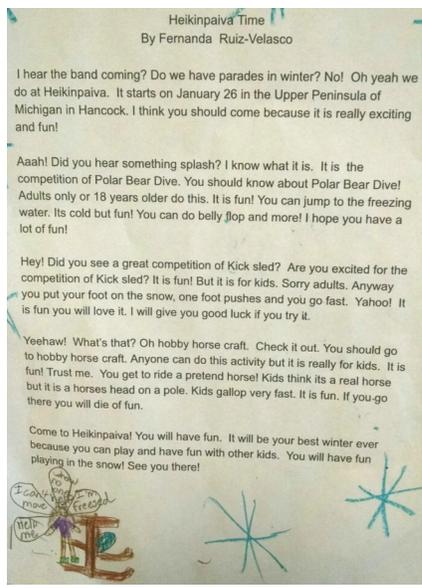


Barkell families learn about generating electricity with lemons.





Heikinpaiva Essay Contest



Barkell third graders once again participated in the Heikinpaiva Essay Contest. Students wrote essays about what Heikinpaiva meant to them and what it means to our community. Congratulations to Gage Chynoweth, Lucy Biekkola, and Fernanda Ruiz-Velasco for being the winners in their classrooms.



The three third grade winners pose with their plaque.



Name: Gage Chynoweth

Heikinpäivä

It's half way thru winter and that means it's Heikinpaiva! Have a terrific time while you're eating a fresh baked cinnamon roll! Or buy a Finnish object. You may be dancing to Finnish music! It begins on January 26th. Most events happen on the same day.

BRRRR! The polar bear dive is an insane idea but it's brilliant! You can wear any costume you want even a banana! You have to get in a long or short line. While you're in line a guy is going to ask you your name and where you're from. You have to say your name and where you're from. You also can say any comment you want. While you're jumping into the freezing hole of water you can do ANY trick you want, even a backflip. That's why it's called the polar bear dive. You win if you do a cool dive and based on the look on your face after you're out of the water. It's cold but it's worth it.

The wife carrying contest is awkward! You have to carry your wife to three strange stations. The first station is the rug shaking station. Whip the rugs very hard. Next you have to get your wife on your back then hurry to the next station which is the sauna station. You have to act like you throw three dips of water onto a boiling stove. While you're doing that your wife is whacking you on the back with a cedar branch. When the cedar branch feels good it gets the blood flowing (in the sauna). You have to do the same exact thing to your wife. After that crazy station you go to the lovely refreshments. You have to pretend you're drinking excellent tea. You clink cups together then... BOLT to the "Finnish" line with your wife on your back. Did you win? Also, don't drop your wife!

I hear music. I see something. It's the Heikinpaiva parade! When you're at the 2019 Heikinpaiva parade you might hear a cheerful MTU band playing music. You might get some delicious candy! There is something new this year called a hobby horse! You have to make your own hobby horse. Then you race with them. After the parade you can go to the Tori market. You can dance to Finnish music. Also get some Finnish objects! There is a lot of yummy food there too. You should come to this excellent parade.

Heikinpaiva is so good you might have to give up a hockey game to go to the celebration! Also just have fun!

Name: Lucy Biekkola

What Is Heikinpäivä?

"I can't wait for Heikinpaiva!" you hear in the crowd. What is Heikinpaiva? Heikinpaiva is a celebration celebrated by Finnish Americans. Heikinpaiva has been celebrated in Hancock since 1999. Heikinpaiva has been celebrated for twenty years. The celebration is in downtown Hancock at Quincy street. Heikinpaiva is celebrated because of St. Henrick's Day. Heikinpaiva is on January 26th. This celebration is a mid winter celebration. But don't forget, when the bear rolls over, that means winter is half over. There are three parts of Heikinpaiva I will be writing about and they are the polar bear dive, the wife carrying contest, and the parade.

In the parade, one person from each third grade class in Barkell Elementary will win the Heikinpaiva contest and get to ride in the parade on a float. Also, some people hold up signs in the parade, dress up in costumes, and do skits. The MTU Tech band plays and sings. The parade starts at eleven o'clock.

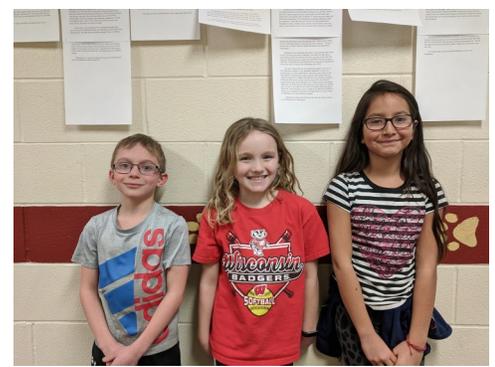
Next, after the parade ends, the wife carrying contest is just getting started. The wife carrying contest is for adults. The wife carrying contest is an obstacle course. The man has to carry the wife to each obstacle. They have to pretend they drink tea and take a sauna. The wife throws a boot at the end and they throw it as far as they can. If you win the wife carrying contest, you get a prize. The wife carrying contest happens at Quincy Green.

Last, after the wife carrying contest is the polar bear dive. The polar bear dive is basically where people jump into Portage Lake. When people jump into the lake, scuba divers help you out of the water. Some people do flips into the water and others just run back inside. In my opinion, I would not prefer doing the polar bear dive. If I did the polar bear dive I would be freezing!

Heikinpaiva is a very fun and awesome celebration for Finnish Americans. There is a lot to do at Heikinpaiva. If you like to win games and prizes, you should enter one of these contests. I hope my narrative gave you more information about Heikinpaiva. If you go to Heikinpaiva, I hope you have fun.



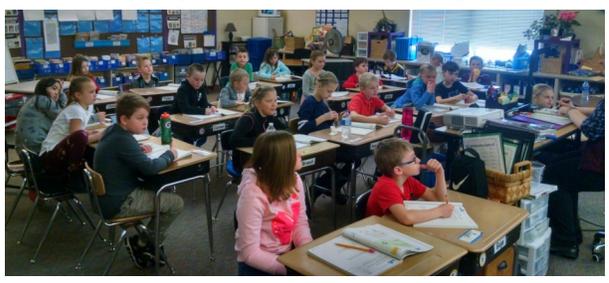
Lucy and Fernanda braved the cold to be the guests of honor for the Heikinpaiva parade.



Gage, Lucy, and Fernanda pose for a photo.



Third grade students are working hard as they prepare for their essay.



Finland



100th Day



Barkell Elementary Young Fives and kindergarten students celebrated their 100th day of school on February 6th. Students dressed up as if they were 100 years old and paraded around the school. Students also spent the day reinforcing their number sense with activities designed to teach them what 100 looks like. Students also worked at home to create a 100 Monster. It was an exciting day for all!



Justus grew a mustache for 100th Day.



Grandma Julia poses for a photo.



Kindergarten and Young 5s students parade through the hallways.



Emmett prepares for retirement.

Kindergartners begin their parade.



Kindergarten students take a break from their parade to pose for a photo.



Young Fives pose for a photo on 100th Day.



Mrs Pihlaja's class shows off their 100th Day outfits.



Mrs. Blessing's class smiles for their 100th Day photo.



Barkell Elementary Skiing Program



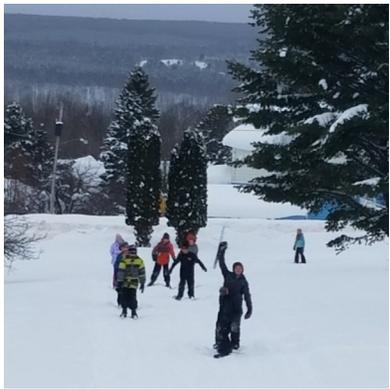
Once again Barkell Elementary students spent their mid winter PE time skiing the Barkell Elementary Cross Country Ski Trails. The program began in 2011 thanks to the Keweenaw Nordic Ski Club. We are very appreciative of the KNSK and all they have done for our students. I would like to thank the following volunteers who helped to make this happen: Wayne & Eileen Stordahl, Mike & Susanna Ausema, Art & Alison Pontynon, Ralph Lund, Candi Silvola, Karen Fenton, Bob Hodges, John Diebel, Jay Green, and Colin Pekkala.



Wayne Stordahl, Project Coordinator, poses with a few young skiers.



Krissa, Jill, Alice, and Kaitlyn take a break from skiing for a quick photo.



The Barkell Elementary ski course is approximately one half mile long and provides our students with fun winter exercise.





Star Lab



Star Lab visited Barkell Elementary during the month of February. Star Lab was set up in the library and students from all grade levels were able to visit the lab. Students learned a lot while in Star Lab. Students learned about the constellations, moon phases, Greek and Native American legends and myths, cardinal directions, and how the seasons relate to the stars. It was a fun time for all.



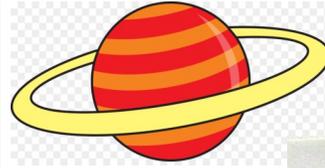
Native Americans honored animals in the sky because of the importance they played in their lives.



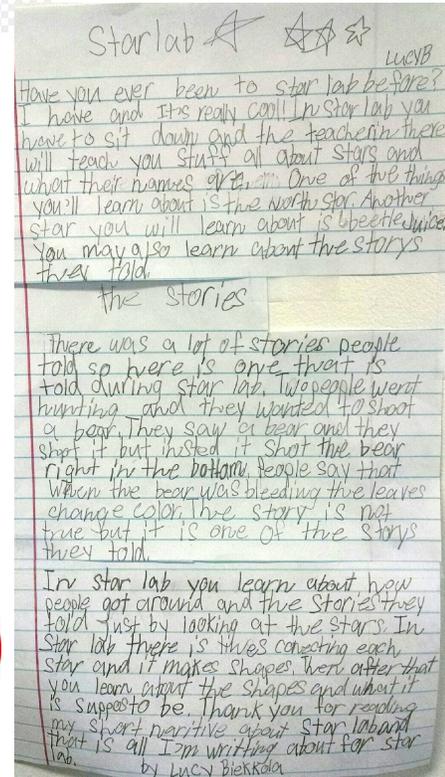
Thank you to Mr. Pertile for running the Star Lab.



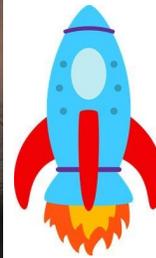
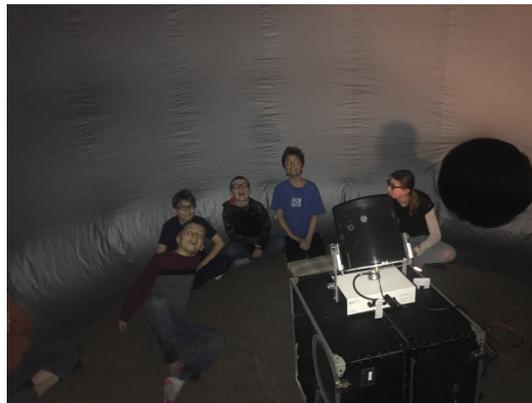
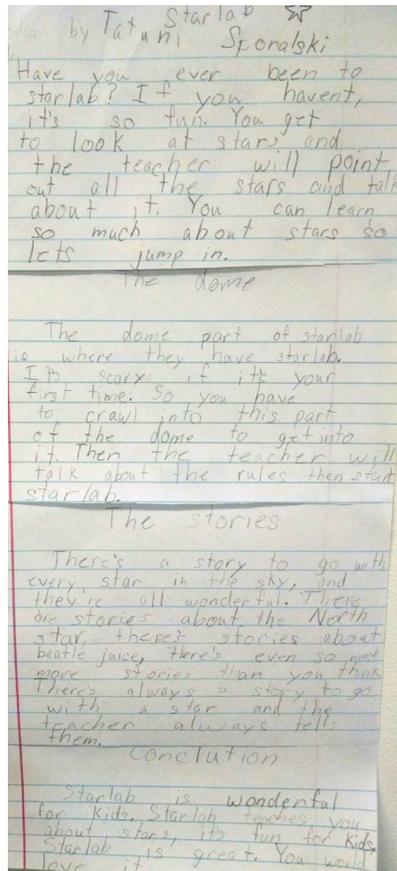
Fifth grade students take a quick break to pose for a photo in Star Lab.



An inside view of Star Lab



Students get ready to enjoy a hand on learning experience about the cosmos.



Star Lab sits in the library.





Valentines Day



Kindergartners work on cards for loved ones.



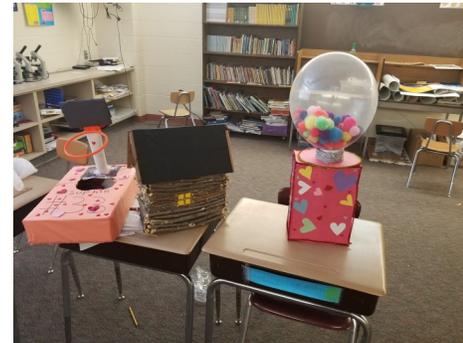
Students in Mrs. Blessing's class took time from their Valentine's Day party to show off the neat cards they made.



Fifth grade students have a contest each year for the coolest Valentine Box. Students work at home with their families to come up with the neatest design.



Lindy and Trav display their unique boxes.



Haily and Emma enjoy their Valentine's Day party.

Students in Mrs. DeHerder's class enjoy their Valentine's Day party. Students exchanged valentines and ate snacks.



Second Grade News



The second grade classes went on a field trip to the Nara Nature Center to snowshoe and learn about matter. We had a science lesson called, "Let it Snow! Let it Melt" through the Michigan Tech Science Investigations field trips. ABC 10 came to interview the field trip presenters and both Silas and Isha were on TV with an interview! The kids had a lot of fun learning about the states of matter and experimenting to see what will cause ice to melt the fastest.



Students take turns trying to form chains to fit their arms around some giant trees.



Jackson, Adelyn, and Lorelai take a little break from the action.



Alex enjoys learning about melting points.



Students enjoy a lesson in the Visitor Center before heading out into the woods.



Students take a break from the fun to pose for a photo.



Barkell second graders enjoyed a day of fun in the woods.

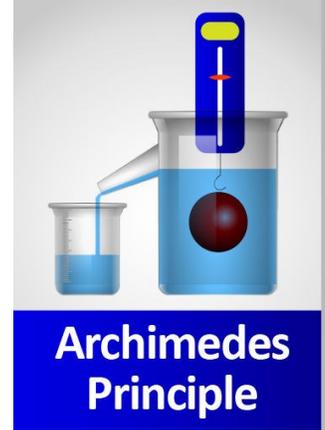




Fourth Grade News

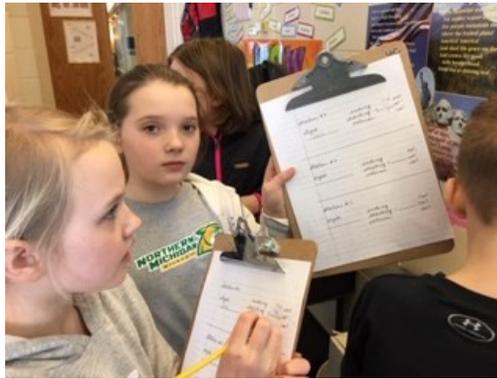


The fourth graders have been learning about the great mathematician and scientist Archimedes. We've learned a lot about the rules of matter and used Archimedes' principle of displacement to measure the volume of various forms of matter.



Students recorded their information on this table.

| | | |
|-------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| object | starting | ending |
| coins | volume - 2.0 cm ³ | 2.0 cm ³ |
| Station # 6 | | |
| object | starting | ending |
| copper | volume - 6.7 cm ³ | 6.9 cm ³ |
| Station # 7 | | |
| object | starting | ending |
| | volume - | cm ³ |



Leandra and Shelby record their data on a table.



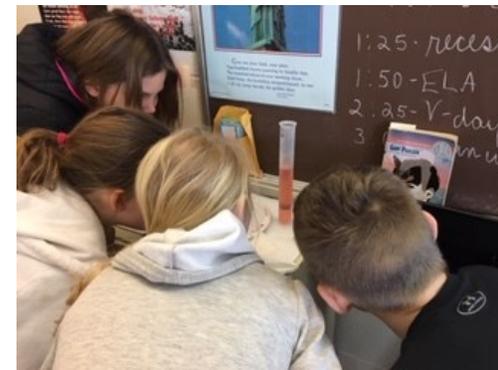
Students record how much the water rose to determine volume.



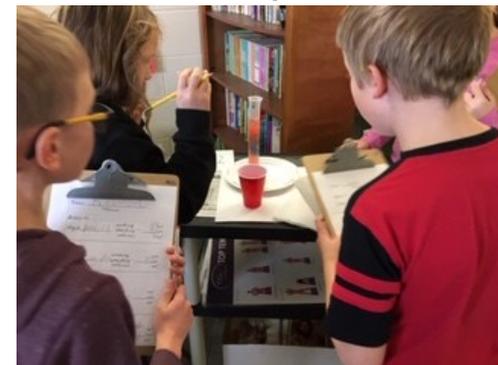
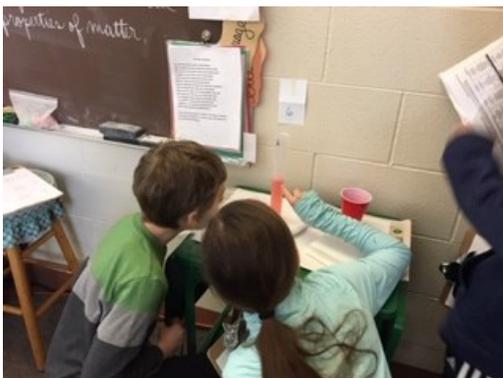
Students take careful measurements to determine the amount of volume displaced by various objects.



Monica and Isabel discuss their results.



Students worked with partners as they applied Archimedes' Principal to determine the volume of various objects.





Fourth Grade News cont...



St. Vincent DePaul food pantry decorated with snowflakes from Barkell.

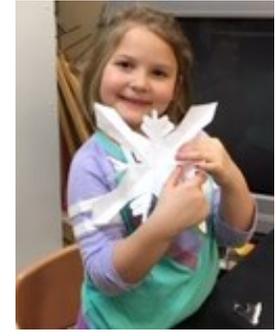
BRIM Buddies create snowflakes to decorate the St. Vincent DePaul food pantry. The fourth graders in 40 and the first graders in Mrs. DuPuis' class are usually reading buddies, but the classes teamed up to make snowflakes for the St. Vincent food pantry on Quincy Street. The snowflakes create lovely seasonal decorations for the pantry and provide privacy for clients who visit.



Caden and Austin display their snowflakes.



First and fourth graders work together making snowflakes.



Viviana displays her snowflake.

Barkell fourth graders enjoyed a special visit from MTU students who taught The Tech students shared a book, teaching our students about African American inventors, and then led our students in an activity to create their own invention. We learned that inventors can be any race or age. Great lesson!



We would like to thank our MTU guests for their fun and informative presentation.



Mrs. Olson's students pose for a photo with their guests.



Students listen to MTU students discuss African American inventors.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO INVENT?

DIRECTIONS: Using your imagination, brainstorm with a partner or on your own and think of an invention that would make life easier, safer, or more fun. After you determine your invention, answer the questions below.

What is the name of your invention? _____

What does your invention do? _____

How will your invention make life easier, safer, or more fun? _____





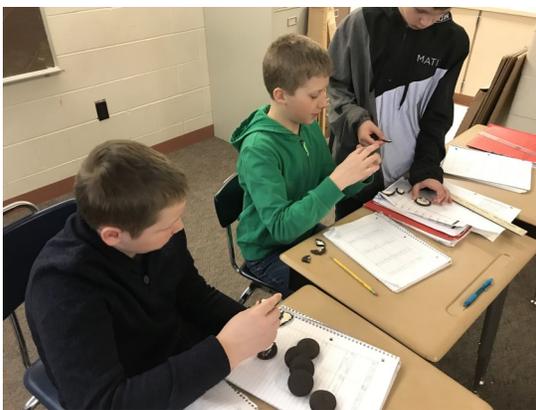
Fifth Grade News



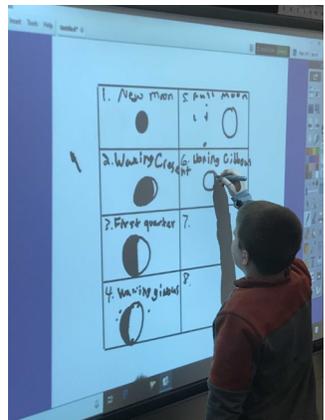
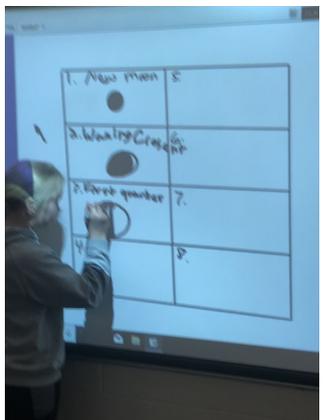
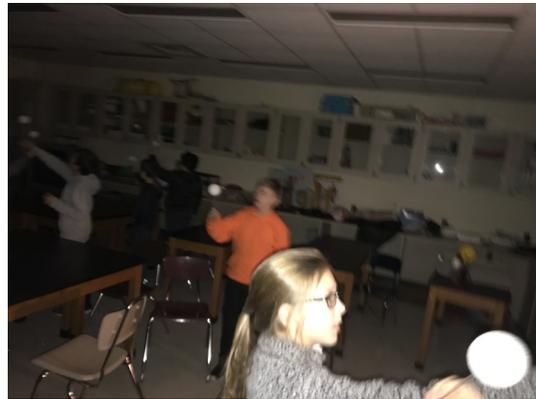
Barkell Elementary fifth grade students enjoyed learning about moon phases through fun, hands on activities. Students used a model of the moon and a light source to observe how the moon changes as it orbits the Earth. Students also used Oreo cookies to show the various phases of the moon.



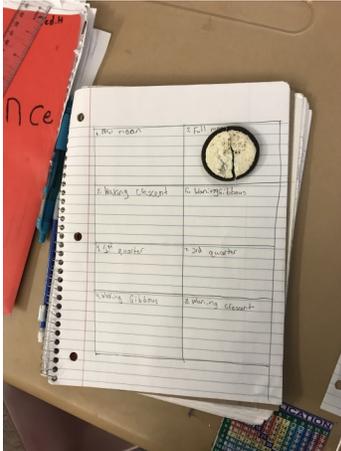
Students use a light source to move around and act as the moon to observe how it changes the light that is reflected to Earth.



Shane and Tyler work together to record their data.



Students record their data on the Promethean Board.



Students create replicas of the moon phases with Oreo cookies and record their results.



Barkell Elementary Thanks:



- * **Barkell Elementary PTO** for all they do for our school
- * **Hancock Public Schools Foundation** for their many generous donations and purchases
- * **Graham and Angela Jaehnig** for their generous donation of games and books.
- * **Judy Albee** for her generous donation of books.
- * **Joanne Jouppe** for her generous donation of a Keurig.
- * **Wayne and Eileen Stordahl, Mike and Susanna Ausema, Art and Alison Pontynon, Ralph Lund, Candi Silvola, Karen Fenton, Bob Hodges, John Diebel, Jay Green, Colin Pekkala, and the Keweenaw Nordic Ski Club** for the tremendous amount of work they put in to help make our elementary ski program such a huge success.



1. All visitors must report to the office. Please do not go to the classroom once the day has begun.
2. Please remember to call the attendance line when your child is absent.
3. Please remember to check the lost and found. We have quite a few unclaimed belongings.

Barkell Elementary would like to thank Cory Packard for volunteering to assist with Star Lab for our school. We appreciate all of the time you put in.



Barkell Elementary needs help with:



- *We are in need of board games (used or new) for our students to use during indoor recess.
- *We are in need of educational DVDs or VHS tapes for our indoor recesses.
- *We are in need of extra art supplies for our indoor recess arts and crafts program.
- *We are in need of Legos for our Lego club