

Fine Arts and Electives

NEWS

September 2019

Big Hollow Middle School

5th Grade Computer Science:

The 5th graders have been working on learning and using the problem solving process.

We are now connecting this process to how a computer works.

6th Grade Computer Science:

The 6th graders have been learning about writing algorithms and flowcharts. We will start using these skills to program our micro:bits.

7th Grade Computer Science:

The 7th graders have been working in code.org to learn the aspects that go into Game Development. We have working on drawing and animating shapes. Next we will be working on animating sprites and starting our games.

8th Grade Computer Science:

The 8th graders have been learning how to use the MIT App Inventor in class. We just finished our very first app and will be working on learning how to debug programs and be building a game in App Inventor next.

5th Grade Band: Students now know 5 notes on their instruments! They are working to play with consistent sounds as they decode and read new songs. In lessons, students are playing solo songs to build independence and will receive individual feedback to improve their playing.

6th, 7th & 8th Grade Band: Students are learning new rhythms and scale patterns to apply to their music. 7th and 8th grade students are using Smart Music to submit assessments and reflect on their performances.



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All Choirs

Students have been working on rhythms and writing counts in their music. The students have been given a variety of songs to prepare for their upcoming fall concerts.

7th Grade Choir Lessons

Trimester choir goals have been set and students are creating and performing rhythms. Next week, they will create melodies on staff paper based on their rhythms.

8th Grade Choir Lessons

Trimester choir goals have been established and the students have been choosing their trimester genius hour projects. A few of those projects include piano scales and songs, guitar basics, and song-writing.

5th Grade Art:

Students have been learning how to incorporate the elements of art into their work. They created optical illusions using line and value and are currently focusing on texture and color to create symmetrical designs.

6th Grade Art:

Students have been learning how to incorporate the elements of art into their work. They created contrasting zentangle doodle drawings and are currently learning about monochromatic color scheme and abstract art.

7th Grade Art:

Students have continued to develop their art skills to create the illusion of space on a flat surface using one point perspective and are currently learning to enlarge a picture using the gridding technique..

8th Grade Art:

Students have completed their amazing pointillism drawings using only dots to create value. We are currently learning about color theory and how to create street art stencils.



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5th and 6th Grade Graphic Arts

We are designing menus for restaurants in Photoshop. The menus include background art, images of food, menu items, descriptions and prices. Students choose a theme for the restaurant and create a logo to represent it.

7th and 8th Grade Graphic Arts

We are creating images of hybrid animals using photoshop. Students are choosing two unrelated animals and combining parts of their bodies together to create a new, hybrid animal. Elements of both original animals must remain recognizable in the final image.

STEM

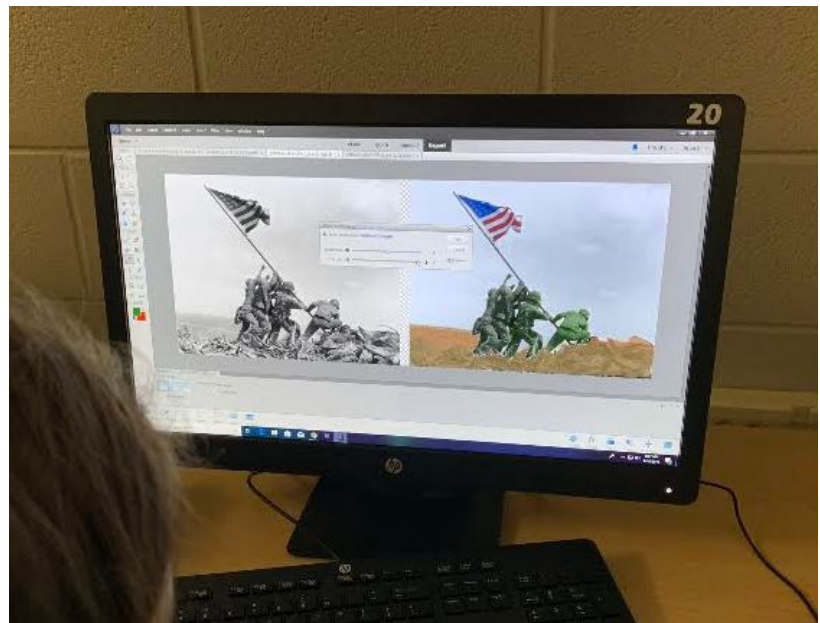
5th grade: Student are going to be utilizing the Engineering Design Cycle and building and testing Zombie Escape Structures.

6th grade: Students will be testing out their knowledge of flight by finding the average speed, distance and duration of flight for a paper airplane. After we will be building a Secret Lair for our Superheroes, utilizing the Engineer Design Cycle.

7th grade: Students will be finishing their Engineering sketching unit working on Isometric and Orthographic sketching. After we will be starting up our precision measurement unit working with dial calipers and creating Air Gliders.

8th Grade: As we finish up identifying and building numerous mechanisms, student will create their very own pull toy, combining mechanisms to create a Pull Toy Parade!

Questions:
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Fine Arts and Electives NEWS

6th Grade Spanish

Sixth grade Spanish will begin second trimester. It will be a trimester long elective.

Students will read, write, listen and speak in Spanish to acquire the language. The majority of teaching and learning takes place in Spanish.



How can I help my child succeed in acquiring Spanish?

Students learn a language best when they hear words that they know used in context and use the language often.

Help your child find ways to use Spanish at home and learn along with them so they have someone to speak with in Spanish. Ask your student to share what they are learning in class and what they are doing on the days we don't have Spanish to keep up with it and practice!

Did you know Sep 15-Oct 15 is Hispanic Heritage month?

Students will be learning about who, what, where and why as we celebrate it throughout this month.

All-Year Spanish

7th grade:

Students are midway through Unit 2 and are working on the target structures: walks, runs, sees and wears. In addition to the target structures, students are working with adjectives fast and slow, clothing and colors. Students have created, read, and acted out a story in Spanish. Next week students will learn about the running of the bulls in Pamplona Spain.

8th Grade:

Students are working on Unit 7 with the target structures: has to, helps, can/can't do something, always and never. This week students created a class story, acted it out and engaged in several other activities to work with the text.. Next week, we continue working with the target structures and students will learn about a unique culture event in Tarragona Spain.

Questions:

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Big Hollow Families,

I am so excited about what we are doing in STEM this year; it has been a blast so far! Part of what makes this class so exciting and unique is that it is project based and we do a lot of creating. While I have all the required supplies, there is a handful of recyclable materials that we are using up quickly and need to replenish from time to time! If you have some of these around the house and are not in need of them, please consider donating the following items:

- **Graph Paper**
- **Empty Paper Towel Tubes**
- **Empty Toilet Paper Tubes**
- **Empty 2L bottles**
- **Corrugated Plastic** (left over/extra Election Signs)
- **Plastic Wrap**
- **Aluminum foil**
- **Popicle Sticks**
- **Empty Water Bottles**
- **Newspaper**
- **Egg Cartons**
- **String/Yarn**
- **Foam Tubes**
- **Random Crafting Supplies**

Any contribution is greatly appreciated! The students and I appreciate all of your support!

Mrs. Cullotta
STEM Teacher

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