



Enrichment ❖ Monthly

❖ Issue 5, February ❖

Art

by: Wendy Haslim

Here are January's masterpieces.

1st - a Lighthouse



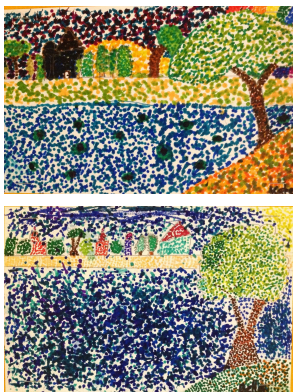
Up next - A Peacock

2nd - Sunset Silhouette



Up next - Owl & Fish

3rd - "Pointillism" Beach Scene



Up next - Cat Face

Science Lab

by: Jennifer Wong

- Kindergarten is observing properties of liquids.
- 1st grade is learning about the states of matter.
- 2nd grade is investigating how people use the earth's resources.
- 3rd is experimenting types of energy.
- 4th is experimenting with magnetism and electricity.
- 5th is experimenting with water filtration.

Music

by: Samantha Whitley & Joyce Ting

K - Kindergarteners are learning about music styles from all over the world this semester. This quarter we are focusing specifically on Africa, as the rhythms and languages of this country help immensely with developing rhythm and word pronunciation. Students have learned some fun phrases and words in Swahili, one of the major languages in East Africa. We've even learned how to count to ten!

1st - First graders are learning about music styles from all over the world this semester. This quarter we are focusing specifically on Africa, as the rhythms and languages of this country help immensely with developing rhythm and word

Technology Lab

by: Ryan Love

- Kindergarten- Students are developing their coding skills at code.org focusing on the first half of course 1.
- 1st Grade- Students are developing their coding skills at code.org focusing on the second half of course 1.
- 2nd Grade- Students are developing their coding skills at code.org focusing on the first half of course 2.
- 3rd Grade- Students are developing their coding skills at code.org focusing on the second half of course 2.
- 4th Grade- Students are developing their coding skills at code.org focusing on the first half of course 3.
- 5th Grade- Students are developing their coding skills at code.org focusing on the second half of course 3.

Physical Education

by: Sue Metcalf

TK/K/1st grades

- Students will learn tumbling skills and begin practicing self and partner balancing and strength exercises.

4th - Elephant



Up next - California Quail

5th - Lions



Up next - Pop Art Selfies

pronunciation. Students have learned some fun phrases and words in Swahili, one of the major languages in East Africa. We've even learned how to count to ten! Students are also exploring some of the instruments of this country and how they can be used during song, celebration, and dance.

2nd - Second graders are learning about music styles from all over the world this semester. This quarter we are focusing specifically on Africa, as the rhythms and languages of this country help immensely with developing rhythm and word pronunciation. Students have learned some fun phrases and words in Swahili, one of the major languages in East Africa. We've even learned how to count to ten! Students are also exploring some of the instruments of this country and how they can be used during song, celebration, and dance.

3rd-5th: See below

- Introduction to nutrition and healthy foods

2nd/3rd grades:

- Students will learn and practice tumbling and balance stunts
- Fitness strength building - curl-ups, push-up hold, v-sit, hang from overhead bars / learn major muscles (3rd grade - test)
- Intro to nutrition and the healthy plate :)

4th -5th grades:

- Learn Square Dancing steps and perform a routine
- Learn major muscles and proper stretching techniques (Physical fitness tests #2)
- Intro to nutrition; students will learn the importance of eating healthy and how it affects our energy and athletic performances techniques

3rd - 5th Music:

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and love your neighbor as yourself." But who are our neighbors?

In music class, students will explore this idea by focusing on places and people outside of the United States. Students will learn about other cultures through music, dance, and even a bit of geography and history. Last spring, students were introduced to a wide range of songs from around the world. This spring, their focus will be on the continent of Africa. Each year moving forward, students will continue their study of the world by focusing on a different region each year.

This semester, Valley Christian has the privilege of hosting guest artist Kele Nitoto, a native of Oakland, specializing in various styles of African drumming and South African boot dance. The semester began with "Baba" Kele (Teacher Kele) and Ms. Ting introducing Grades 3-5 students to the origins of step/tap dance which lie in South Africa's boot dance, originally created by gold/diamond miners. First, students identified South Africa on a map of the African continent. Next, Kele explained that from 1942-1992, the system of apartheid kept native South Africans and Europeans "a-part." A bright 3rd grader commented, "That means apartheid lasted for 50 years!" Students learned that native South Africans were forced to work in the mines for minimal wages and because they were not allowed to speak, miners developed a system of communication from the percussive sound created by their boots. As to why boot dance was created? Baba Kele was able to explain a very complex situation in "student" friendly language, that simply put: miners were able to make something good out of a bad situation. Valley students represented themselves superbly in this first lesson with our guest artist, Kele, and on the way out a comment was overheard, "I was having so much fun, I forgot about the next class!"

After February break, Kele will teach students the basics of West African drumming (he owns 30+ hand drums and other percussion instruments!), while another teacher instructs in West African dance. In K-2, students will work with Ms. Whitley - a diverse artist herself with a background in music, dance and theater - to explore songs, movement, and languages from the African continent. Students' study of Africa will culminate in a concert on Thursday, May 18 in the JSA featuring a range of the performing arts.

