



Dear Parents, Teachers, and PEAKers,

Last week at PEAK, students completed the final pieces of our Lost Cities unit. They used Microsoft Excel to create a data table and then added the data from the rubrics audiences provided. Students learned how to calculate and average and how to let excel calculate the score for them. They were excited to see the scores people gave them. Overall, the teams did very well! Students also completed an end-of-unit survey, providing feedback and their thoughts on the unit of study they just completed.

In the afternoon, we started our ***Endangered Species: Lessons for Young Students*** unit. We started with some basic definitions. What is a species? What does endangered mean? The students had very good ideas about endangered and extinction too. The concept of a species was challenging, and it is. Even biologists and taxonomists argue over this today! At the end of the day, students did a fun activity with a partner. They used internet resources to find examples of endangered species and then assigned those creatures to the habitat where they can be found. I had seven different habitats listed on poster paper around the room and student teams found a species for each. We created some very interesting lists with some creatures I'd never heard of before!

This week will see students continuing their progress in learning about endangered species. We will use the creatures we found last week and dig deeper into why this species is struggling. Student partners will share their results with their classmates so everyone can gain from the experience! We will be creating our project teams next week as well. Newly formed teams will build from this brainstorm/research activity and eventually choose an endangered species to focus their research. Students will also participate in an activity which will help them understand the concept of endangered and extinct...from a fish point of view! This activity will prepare the students for our upcoming visit to Montana Wild. I have a fish biologist coming to speak to us about endangered fish species in Montana and what they are doing to help. I'm really looking forward to it!

This Week's Activities: (Nov. 6 - 10)

Research: Internet – I can navigate the internet and collect relevant research, including citations, with teacher guidance.	Species Brainstorm – Students teams will continue exploring an endangered species they have found. They will determine the how and why this creature is in trouble.
Interpersonal: Collaboration: – I can assume an assigned role within a group and effectively contribute to a team.	The Game of Life – The class will take on the role of a species of fish and through natural events and random catastrophes, they will learn this complex idea of endangered and extinct.
Communication: Presentation Skills – I can make a team presentation to an audience of peers using voice, eye contact, and pace.	Here's What We Learned – Students partners will present their endangered species results to their classmates providing each student more options and interests for their upcoming project.

Really getting excited,
Mr. Currier

PEAK Calendar – Fall 2023

6 Jefferson Rossiter Warren	7 Jim Darcy Kessler Central	8 Four Georgians Hawthorne	9 Broadwater Bryant Smith	10
13 Jefferson Rossiter Warren	14 Jim Darcy Kessler Central	15 Four Georgians Hawthorne	16 Broadwater Bryant Smith	17
Endangered Species Experience MT Wild				
20 Morning - 9-11:30 Jefferson Rossiter Warren Afternoon-11:30-2 Four Georgians Hawthorne	21 Morning - 9-11:30 Jim Darcy Kessler Central Afternoon-11:30-2 Broadwater Bryant Smith	22	23	24
Bussing provided.		Thanksgiving Break No PEAK!		
27 Jefferson Rossiter Warren	28 Jim Darcy Kessler Central	29 Four Georgians Hawthorne	30 Broadwater Bryant Smith	DEC 1
4 Jefferson Rossiter Warren	5 Jim Darcy Kessler Central	6 Four Georgians Hawthorne	7 Broadwater Bryant Smith	8
11 Jefferson Rossiter Warren	12 P/T Conf.	13 Four Georgians	14 P/T Conferences Details coming!	15
18 P/T Conf.	19 Jim Darcy Kessler Central	20 Hawthorne	21 Broadwater Bryant Smith	22 Winter Break Begins