

MICROMONSTERS

Independent Study: Microbiology & Macroinvertebrates

Dear Parents, Teachers, and PEAKers,

We've started both portions of our **MICROMONSTERS** unit: Microbiology and Independent Study.

For our first microbiology project, students reviewed the Scientific Method. With lab partners, they did background research on bacteria, and then came up with hypotheses on where in the school bacteria may be found. Then, using very specific protocols, they collected samples with swabs and placed them on agar plates. Now we'll wait and see what disgusting (I mean FASCINATING!) colonies we may be growing. I will share pictures as the colonies emerge.

Students also took the first steps in our annual Independent Study. They have all chosen topics that are related to either Microbiology or Macroinvertebrates. There are some very interesting ideas here- ocean creatures, diseases, parasites, insects, arachnids, fungi, lichen, and many more. You will be amazed at the diversity of topics!

This week we'll be conducting our next in-class experiment on epidemiology. Students will simulate a pathogen outbreak, discover "patient zero", see how diseases are spread, and then get the "antidote".

For their Independent Study, students will complete their idea webs to broaden their investigations and come up with new avenues to pursue in their research. We'll present their results, including scale models, in the spring.

Lastly, stay tuned for details on an INCREDIBLE two-day trip out of town to do some real-world microbiology, tentatively **April 27-28!**


This Week's Activities: Feb. 13-17

Research: 5 Areas of Investigating Living Things I can use the 5 Areas system after a brief review and teacher modeling.	Micro Intro - As an intro to microbiology, students will choose a microorganism and review the 5 Areas of Investigating Living Things to learn about it.
Creativity: Webbing I can effectively use webbing to develop a 3-tier web with 50+ entries.	Webbing Our Ideas - Students will review the webbing process and complete idea webs to help guide their research.
Research: Expert-Led I can listen attentively, take effective notes, ask pertinent questions, and utilize expert information to add depth my own work.	Outbreak! - Students will simulate a pathogen outbreak. They will learn about how pathogens are spread and how to prevent it.

On the Hunt for Facts (and Bacteria!),

J. Slead

PEAK GT6-7: Winter-Spring 2023

February 13 CRA: Lunch Advisor	14 HMS: Lunch Advisor	15 CRA: Lunch Advisor	16 HMS: Lunch Advisor	17 CRA: Lunch Advisor
20 Presidents' Day No School	21 HMS: Lunch Advisor	22 CRA: Lunch Advisor	23 HMS: Lunch Advisor	24 CRA: Lunch Advisor
27	28	March 1	2	3
 <div>Seminar 6: HMS & CRA (Bring Library Card)</div>				
6 CRA: Lunch Advisor	7 HMS: Lunch Advisor	8 CRA: Lunch Advisor	9 HMS: Lunch Advisor	10 CRA: Lunch Advisor
13 HMS: Lunch Advisor	14 HMS: Lunch Advisor	15 CRA: Lunch Advisor	16 HMS: Lunch Advisor	17 CRA: Lunch Advisor
20 CRA: Lunch Advisor	21 HMS: Lunch Advisor	22 CRA: Lunch Advisor	23 HMS: Lunch Advisor	24 CRA: Lunch Advisor
27	28	29	30	31
SPRING BREAK				
April 3 HMS: Lunch Advisor	4 HMS: Lunch Advisor	5 CRA: Lunch Advisor	6 HMS: Lunch Advisor	7 CRA: Lunch Advisor