

Dear Parents, Teachers, and PEAKers,

We just had a whirlwind of a seminar! Students began with a "get to know you" bingo activity, where all of the entries were in the categories of our 5 Areas of Investigating Living Things. Students had to seek out others who had the same number of siblings, liked or disliked similar foods, had interest in common, and much more, all while staying within our category list. It was fun to see them all interviewing each other, and four of the students actually got a "bingo blackout", meaning they found students to complete ALL of the 25 listed objectives! Then, we headed to the Lewis & Clark Library, where students found books and reference materials for their Independent Study topics.

In the afternoons, one half of the students headed over to Carroll College to tour the bio department and interview the biology staff about their biological topics, and the other half stayed at Ray Bjork to complete a microscope lab. It was a very scientific experience overall! The students were extremely successful and very busy throughout.

This week's focus will be on Natural History (a detailed and comprehensive description of an organism's physical structures). Students will deepen their research about their chosen organisms, and then will begin designing scale models, which will be one element of their final presentations for this unit.

Lastly, we're gearing up for an INCREDIBLE two-day trip out of town to do some real-world microbiology April 27-28! (See the calendar). We'll be headed to the University of Montana's Flathead Lake Biological Research Station and the Salish Kootenai College to work with some incredible scientists!

This Week's Activities: March 2-3

Research: Internet I can effectively conduct internet research safely and appropriately and properly cite my sources.	Worldwide Search - Students will continue internet research on their individual topics, including proper citations of sources using EasyBib.
Research: Printed Materials I can gather relevant information from various print source types with little to no teacher guidance, including proper citations.	<u>Model Citizens</u> - Students will use Natural History and applied math to design and build accurate and authentic scale models of their microorganisms and macroinvertebrates.

Making Magnificent Micromonster Models,

J. Slead

PEAK GT6-7: Winter-Spring 2023

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