

Ms. Evelyn's Grade 3/4 Class



What a mess! The Grade 3/4 class has been inquiring into the issue of garbage. In our daily lives, we learned that we each produce about 5 lbs. of garbage every day! We took apart some tasty treats like individual cookie and fruit snack packages and found the surface area of the packaging. We started to see how quickly trash accumulates. This motivated us to look at some healthy options that use less packaging like fruits and vegetables. We even did an art project with paper-mâché. We studied about the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, which is a collection of garbage that is so enormous that simply trying to collect the garbage is no longer a viable option. With that in mind, the students designed a prototype for something that could help us reduce, reuse, or recycle the waste we produce. We also went on field trips to the Kortright Centre for Conservation and High Park and were visited by guest speakers from Commit2Act, STEM presenters from U of T, the Bloor-Gladstone librarian, as well as author, Kevin Sylvester. After spending some time in the kitchen and gym, we said goodbye to another great summer at Brock!



Mr. Komiotis' Grade 4/5 Class



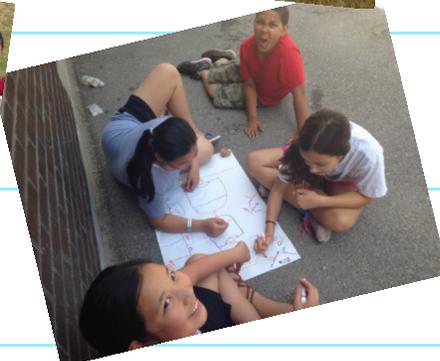
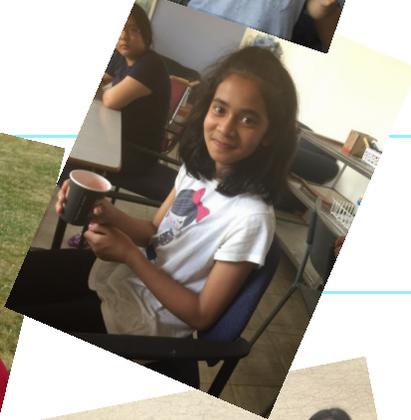
This summer at Brock P.S., the Grade 4/5 class participated in many fun projects, activities, workshops and field trips. Students learned all about community gardens and created poster summaries describing their benefits. We visited the rooftop garden and learned about garden care, measured the distance around objects, and made fruit smoothies and English muffin pizzas with herbs harvested from the garden. Students led inquiries into several topics such as littering, air pollution, noise pollution, deforestation and acid rain. They transformed their inquiries into literacy projects including haiku poems and comic strips, highlighting their negative impact on the community and the environment. In addition to participating in fun projects, students participated in beta test engineering, an app workshop, and learned to build their own Android apps.



Students also attended a workshop by best-selling children's author Kevin Sylvester and learned all about writing and drawing comics. In addition to workshops, we went on several field trips including Kortright Conservation Centre, Gladstone Public Library and Dufferin Grove Park. At Kortright, students flew kites, learned about solar panels, wind energy and rode water pump bicycles. At Gladstone Public Library, students learned to research books through the online catalogue and signed up for the summer reading club. At Dufferin Grove Park, students conducted littering surveys and participated in a recycling dash scavenger hunt. We had a great summer!



Mr. Williams' Grade 5/6 Class



Hello from the Grade 5/6 Class!

It has been a productive couple of weeks as the Grade 5/6 class have made it their personal mission to look at environmental issues and provide potential solutions to these problems. Some of the issues we explored were looking at water purification, advanced tornado warning systems, using wave power to generate electricity and what to do with recycled plastic. The students have also been looking at school improvement initiatives that range from adding more basketball nets to the outside of the gym to creating an outdoor skating area and a "games room." The students have also had the opportunity to participate in many hands-on initiatives and outdoor excursions. These included a trip to the Kortright Centre for a workshop on wind power and kite flying, working with Lego robotics, and a trip to No-Frills for a packaging and economics workshop. We have also had plenty of time in the gym and outside playing a number of different cooperative games and then we refueled with a smoothie making morning! We are excited to see our initiatives in action and look forward to seeing them implemented at Brock in the future.

Ms. da Silva's and Ms. Kondo's Grade 7/8A Class

The Grade 7/8A Class had a very busy three weeks! It all started with an inquiry topic revolving around Health and Wellness. From there, our class discovered more about our daily nutritional needs by using the Food Guide. Students then designed and presented their own healthy meals.

To put their new skills into practice, students also made several delicious recipes (most of them turned out just like we expected!). The smoothies, kale chips, salad made from ingredients in our garden, popsicles, and tacos were just a few of our favourites. Going to Loblaws to make a three course meal was also a highlight!

We learned some great story planning skills from the hilarious authors, Ted Staunton and Richard Scrimger. Kevin Sylvester also showed us how to be better writers and illustrators.

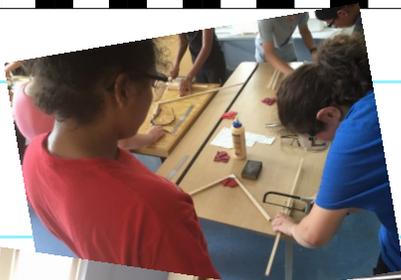
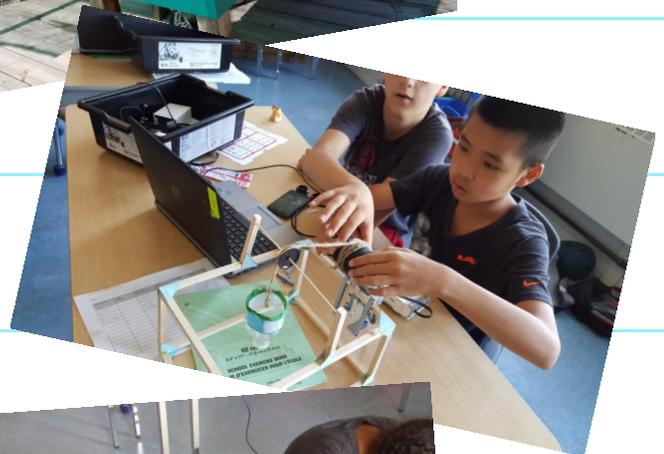
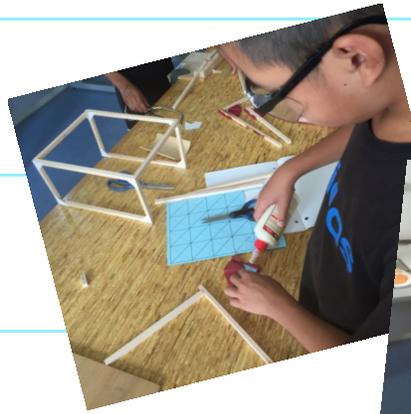
To round out our inquiry, we participated in a yoga class with a certified instructor. What a fun and new experience that was!

Ms. da Silva and Ms. Kondo are extremely impressed with all the students' dedication and enthusiasm during summer school. We hope you had as much fun as we did!



Mr. Malolos's Grade 7/8B Class

Students in the grade 7/8 class have been working on looking at creating technological solutions to real world issues and problems. We looked at examples of people who have tried to make a difference in communities that don't have access to clean water and electricity. Inspired by the actions of William Kamkwamba (The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind), Ryan Hreljac (creator of Ryan's Well Foundation), and Dean Kamen (creator of the Slingshot water purification system), the students developed automated windmills and well water retrieval systems using Lego Mindstorms EV3. The students then investigated everyday actions people can take to help improve the environment and society, by researching actions from the Commit2Act website (<http://commit2act.tigweb.org/actions/discover>). Researching these actions inspired our class to take their own action by designing solutions to help people commit to taking some of the actions on Commit2Act.





Wishing everyone a safe, happy, relaxing, and enjoyable summer!

