

Dive into Oceanography **YOUNG THINKERS** TK/K & 1st/2nd Grades

38 years in 2018

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**Laura Miller, Desiree Franz, Elaina
Thurman, Ashtian Martinez-Baltazar,
& Paloma Diaz**

Project THINK students are discovering the scientific study of oceans during session one. They are looking at the life that inhabits them, their physical characteristics, the depth and extent of ocean waters where they dwell, their movement, and their chemical make-up as well as the topography and composition of the ocean floors.



Announcements

*Mystery animals visit Project Think every Friday.

Throughout the week students use deductive logic and reasoning to guess the animal that appears during their snack break on Friday. This week students were able to meet, up close, a real pufferfish!

*Family night will be Thursday, July 5th, from 7:00 to 8:00pm. Please join us on a tour of Mason Hall to see the student made projects, meet Project Think staff, and view streaming videos of the Thinkers in action.

Special Oceanography Assembly: On Wednesday, June 27, the Manhattan Beach Roundhouse Aquarium will visit Project THINK! The staff will bring several tide pool animals for the students to observe and touch as they share about ocean life and emphasize how to preserve it.



Young Thinkers at work!

SCIENCE

Instructor: Joanna Santa Cruz
TK/K

Elements that make up the ocean such as the size of the ocean and the ocean floor were introduced and discussed. Students learned the difference between fresh water and salt water during an in-depth experiment. Foundational knowledge continues to grow as students will be able to describe wave characteristics and explain how they form. Second and third week science rotations will further explore the layers of the ocean and animals that live within each layer.

Instructor: Alex Meyer
1st/2nd Grades

This week students learned about the different organisms that live in the ocean. They developed an understanding about marine animal survival through a compare and contrast lesson to illustrate which live in the ocean without air and those which must breathe air to survive. Students tested the mechanism of blubber to understand how some marine animals could stay warm in the ocean with freezing temperatures.

TECHNOLOGY

Instructor: Danika Hochberger - TK/K

During the first week of Project THINK, the TK/K students began to dip their toes into the water of technology! The week included an introduction to beginning coding skills using Ozobots and games, which helped students develop hand-eye coordination and strengthen motor skills. During week one, the TK/K students also began working on making their own personalized coloring books using Google Slides, a process which allows the students to grow familiar with the program.

Instructor: Aaron Elvis - 1st/2nd Grades

The technology lab was buzzing during the first week of Project THINK as the 1st and 2nd grade students learned new skills on the computer and began working on their slideshow presentations. The Young Thinkers are conducting research as they expand their knowledge and prepare projects about sea creatures and characteristics of the ocean. Their slideshows will be ready to view at Family Night.

MATH

Instructor: Dani Gonzalez - TK/K

All TK/K students in math worked on number recognition, counting, and writing numbers throughout the first week. They are learning to count with their fingers for number recognition and manipulating different objects to identify smaller and larger numbers. They are going to be true mathematicians at the end of these three weeks as they continue learning with addition and subtraction of numbers up to 9.

Teacher: Madi Langely - 1st/2nd Grades

This week, first and second grade students used base ten cubes to represent oceanography facts: Did you know that sharks have up to 240 teeth in their mouth at once? Students used the cubes to represent number facts and also complete two-digit addition problems. First grade students paired movement with chanting to better learn to count by tens and hundreds. In the next two weeks, 1st and 2nd grade students will continue to explore the sea using math skills. First graders will learn to measure while second graders will focus on estimation and adding measurements found on a ruler. All students will also learn to draw picture and bar

graphs. Based on the Common Core standards, these math activities are both on level with students' knowledge and pushing them towards the next level of math proficiency.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Teacher: Sarah Clifton - TK/K

This week in TK/K Language Arts students explored the ocean as they started writing their own little books about animals in the tide pools. They looked at pictures from the tide pools and watched video clips. The Young Thinkers traced words in a sentence and added punctuation. They also learned about crabs and colored their own tide pool. They practiced their "cr" blends by playing a matching game and modeling Playdough into words. For the next two weeks the students will be learning about whales and dolphins



Student uses play dough to model 'cr' blends during a TK/K Language Arts rotation.

Teacher: Kerri Valtier, Rachel Kavalle - 1st/2nd Grades

This week in language arts/social studies the first and second grade students were diving into oceanography. The first grade students focused on learning about a variety of ocean animals beginning with dolphins. They read articles, where they identified key facts, and created a bubble map to help them remember the key facts. The second grade students focused on learning about the different ocean zones beginning with the sunlight zone. They created a tree map and labeled a picture of the sunlight zone. They are excited to continue their learning journey through the ocean.

ART TK/K and 1st/2nd Grades

Instructor: Susan Rogers

Assistant: Paloma Diaz

The Young Thinkers, (also known as Young Sea Explorers) started out the week by hearing the book *A House for Hermit Crab* by Eric Carle. They learned about tide pools and the animals that inhabit them. During the first week they focused on color as they learned about primary and secondary colors. The children also closely examined various sea shells noting texture, size, and shape such as triangles, circles, rectangles, and spirals. They worked on composition by creating various paintings that, when put together, will give them exposure to mixed media utilizing weaving and collage.

During the next two weeks they will continue to explore tide pool animals and ocean life by creating a 3-D Starfish and a line drawing using ink to represent the sepia that comes from an octopus and monoprinting.

DO NOT FORGET:

***T-Shirt Fridays: Young Thinkers who are wearing Project Think shirts on Fridays are entered into a raffle with prizes.**

AFTERNOON Visual and Performing Arts**Art Instructor & V&P Arts Lead – Susan Rogers****Music and Movement Teacher – Laura Miller****Drama Teacher – Sarah Lown****Creative Writing and Poetry – Desiree Franz**

The Young Thinkers are divided into groups: Sea Urchins, Sharks, Dolphins, and Octopus as they rotate throughout the afternoon to four different teachers exploring various artistic mediums. At the end of the day the Sea Explorers work on their performance of “The Yellow Submarine”.

Art: This week the Young Thinkers (also known as Young Ocean Explorers) created a 3-D fish out of paper. They also closely examined sea shells and drew various sea animals using oil pastels. The children learned about color, size, shape, and space. In the next two weeks they will create a flying fish and a resist painting as well as continue to work on painting props for their performance of “The Yellow Submarine”.

Music & Movement: The creative Visual and Arts students are busy preparing their performance of The Yellow Submarine which will be filmed and shown at Family Night. Students are working hard learning the lyrics, rhythm, and beat to the song. They are also learning American Sign Language (ASL) to the chorus of the song. They are learning to keep a beat using a variety of instruments such as maracas, drums, beat sticks, tambourines, bells, and cymbals (a favorite). The singing this week included: “Down by the Bay, creating their own funny rhymes, and “Slippery Fish” with movements to the sea animals in the song .

Drama: In Theater Arts this week students practiced beginning skills, they learned about the parts of a story, stage directions, and how to keep a straight face while acting. The students are looking forward to writing more of their own class plays and performing them in the puppet stage.

Creative Writing and Poetry: *Students engage with language through word play, word formation, and grammar elements as they create their own ocean adventures.*

AFTERNOON Swim**Pomona Summer Swim Program Staff****Teacher: Madi Langley****Assistants: Joanna Santacruz, Elaina Thurman, and Ashtian Martinez-Baltazar**

Students enrolled in Project THINK afternoon swim are actually students of the Pomona Summer Swim Program! Certainly a refreshing part of the day, a lesson in the Pendleton Pool is an opportunity for students to learn and master stroke technique and safety. Teacher student ratio is 1:2 and for our more advanced swimmers, 1:3. Upon completion of lesson, students engage in an afternoon of Fun and Fitness to include: yoga, outdoor relays, charades, ocean bingo and more!

***Volunteers***

Project THINK enters its' 38th year and does so with a dedicated volunteer crew! Many of our volunteers are referrals from past Project THINK families and area high school counselors. A week into our first session and over 550 volunteer hours have been given! This type of commitment is why Project THINK continues year after year! Join us in thanking our volunteers!