



Altoona Intermediate School  
Altoona, Wisconsin

## April 2021 Newsletter

From the Principal, Andrea Steffen:

The teachers and fifth grade students worked hard on their Ellis Island Experience. This simulation gives students a first person point of view of what life was like as an immigrant going through Ellis Island. You might see your child in one of the attached pictures!

Last month the students earned a sledding party. Since the snow is gone, it was changed to an outdoor party with the Fire Department. The students loved the hot cocoa and bonfire!

Coming up in April is FORWARD testing. All students, in school and virtual, will be testing the week of April 19th. Be sure to rest up and stay healthy.

Have a safe and fun Spring Break! As a reminder, there is no school on Monday, April 5th. It is an Educator Inservice day.

PBIS  
Kids!



# What did 4th Graders Learn in March?

## 4th Grade Math

By: Paige Liddell, Kailyn Otterson, Jenice Fernandez and Marissa Neidermire

In fourth grade, we are doing fractions and decimals in math. Fractions and decimals are fun and easy to understand.

Fractions are parts of a whole. Fractions can be equivalent. The numerator is above the line, the denominator is beneath the line.

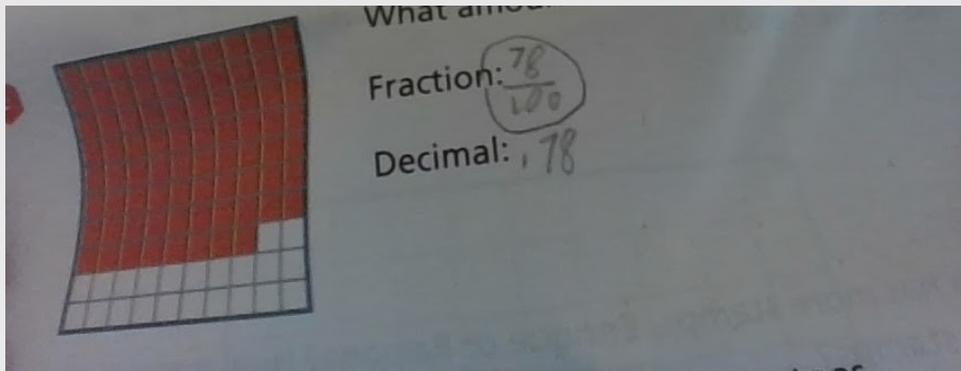


*We used playdough to make different fractions*

Decimals are just like fractions. Decimals are just written differently. Tenths look like this: 0.1

Hundredths look like this: 0.01

Wholes go in front of the decimal point.



## Colonial Unit Fourth Grade

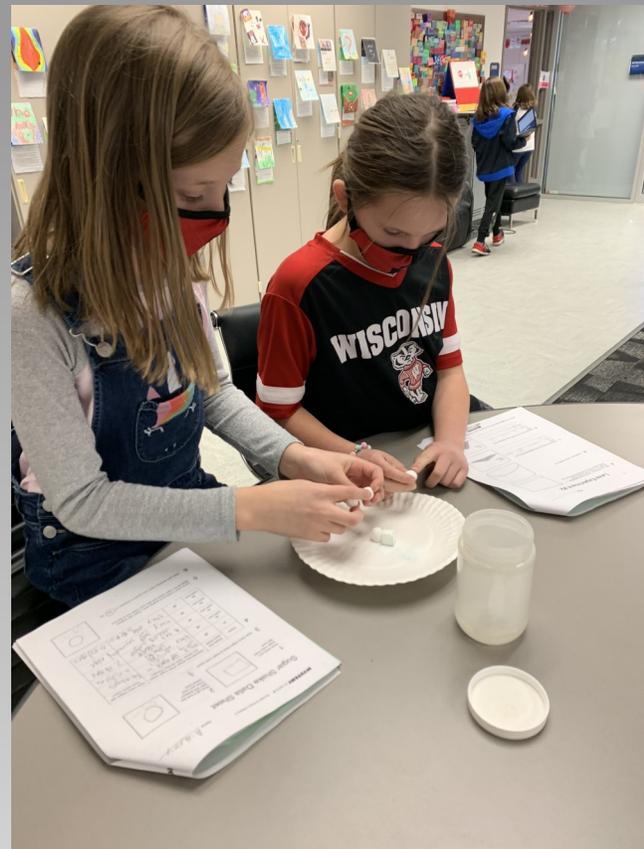
By: Eleanor Myren

As of right now, fourth graders in Altoona Intermediate School are learning about the first few colonies to make it to America. Books are being read about traveling on ships sailing to “The New World”. In the past few days, students have been going to different classrooms and reading books such as “Blood on the River”, “The Corn Raid”, and “A Lion to Guard Us”. It is a book about Jamestown, 1607. The past couple of weeks, my class has been writing about our daily lives in a packet, while the teachers read a book telling us about the daily lives of colonists. At the beginning of the unit, we learned about The Lost Colony of Roanoke. It had caught my attention that the settlers disappeared out of nowhere. My classmate, Charles Kent says that the Indian tribe, Croatoan, had killed off the settlers in a raid. In his opinion, the raid had left the place in ruins. What I personally think is that Croatoan had taken the settlers in, then they had all been destroyed in a raid by another tribe nearby. Next, we had learned about Jamestown. We had learned about Plymouth after. For those who don't know, Plymouth was the colony to make friends with the Indians and had a huge feast, now known as Thanksgiving.

## The Birth of Rocks

By Audrey + Paxton  
Mrs Langlois Class

We are learning about The birth of rocks in science and it is cool. We are doing a bunch of different experiments and they are fun. First, we listened to a story about someone who owned a farm and found a bone so he started digging and he found a whole skeleton. Then we had to guess on what happened and then we would tell a story about what your guess was and we drew pictures too. The second experiment was that we had to mark volcanoes on a map in either North America, South America, Asia or Australia and nearby Islands. We did this because we wanted to know if a volcano could pop up in our back yard. and we learned that it could if you live in the Ring of Fire. Third, we did an experiment which we had to guess. Which lava went in which volcano. We did this because we were trying to figure out why tall (cone) volcanoes exploded and we had to figure out which lava went in the tall volcanoes. Fourth, we did an experiment where we had to take sugar cubes (Paxton wished she could eat them but she can not eat them.) Next we colored the sides and then we put them in a container and we shook them. They turned round and smooth and the color was gone. Then we had to finish the experiment with a lot of questions.

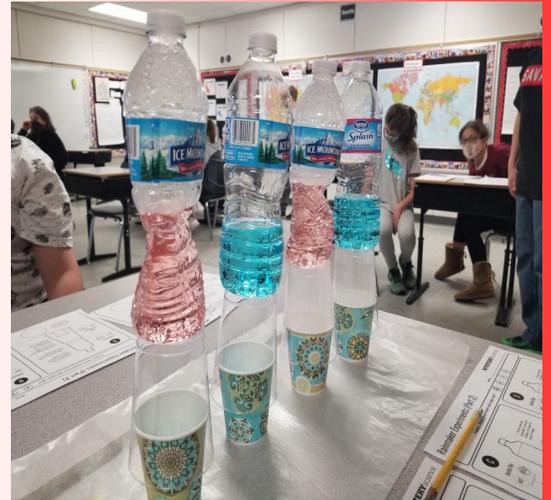
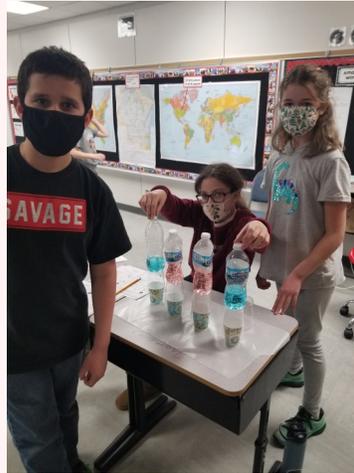
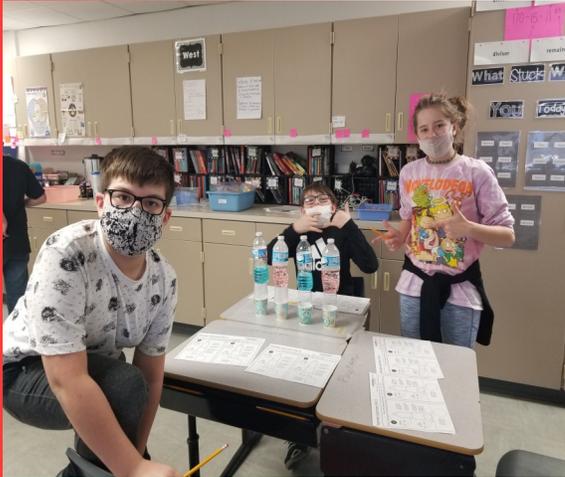
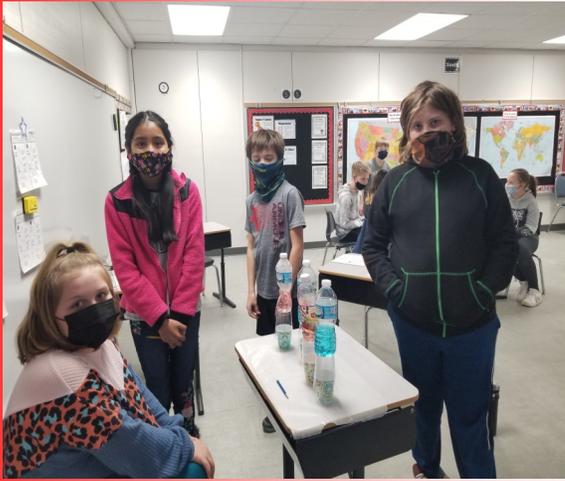


**Fifth grade** just started a new unit in **Math** recently. Students are investigating the meaning of decimals and relationships between fractions and decimals. They are to use their knowledge of number relationships and a variety of representations and models to compare, order decimals, and add and subtract decimals.

In **ELA** students are finishing up their last unit on immigration. Students have been working on completing their research papers and their slide presentations to share with their classmates and families. Our next unit will be Battle of the Books starting the week before spring break.

**Social Studies** has been tied in with the ELA curriculum. The "Ellis Island Simulation" was a big success! And now we will be moving into a new **Science** unit called Watery Planet.





The 5th graders in Mrs. Bain and Ms. Busch's class made it rain in their classroom!



Can you find the students in Mrs. Brahan's classroom? Look closely ... They spread around the room and did some revising and editing on their classmates' research essays. Everyone was so focused and engaged!





# 2020 - 2021 School Calendar

August 2020						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2020						
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27	28	29	30			

October 2020						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2020						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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29	30					

December 2020						
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January 2021						
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31						

February 2021						
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28						

March 2021						
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28	29	30	31			

April 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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May 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

- 6-12 A In-Person, B Virtual
- 6-12 B In-Person, A Virtual
- K-12 Virtual Learning
- School Closed
- Early Release Day
- Educator Inservice (No Students)
- New Educator Orientation
- Family-Teacher Conferences

Jul 1 - Aug 31	One Educator Preparation Day
Aug 18 - 20	New Educator Orientation
Aug 21 - 27	Educator Inservice - No School for Students
Sept 1	Student First Day
Sept 7	Labor Day - No School
Oct 20	K-5 Family-Teacher Conference - Evening
Oct 22	K-5 Family-Teacher Conference - Afternoon/Evening
Oct 23	K-5: No School
Nov 23	Educator Inservice - No School for Students
Nov 24 - 27	Thanksgiving Break - No School

Dec 24 - Jan 1	Winter Break - No School
Jan 22	Educator Inservice - Early Release for Students
Feb 23	Family-Teacher Conference - Evening
Feb 25	Family-Teacher Conference - Afternoon/Evening
Feb 26	No School
Mar 29 - Apr 2	Spring Break - No School
Apr 5	Educator Inservice - No School for Students
May 28	High School Graduation
May 31	Memorial Day - No School
Jun 4	Student Last Day - Early Release