



Driftwood Monthly News

Student created class Newsletter



Red fish are black

In Marine Biology, we are studying light waves. We learned that deep down at the bottom of the kelp forest, red fish appear black because there is no red light way down underwater.

Our class knows this because we did an experiment in the gym. Our Marine Biologist, Josh Lord, had us put on masks with blue lenses. Then, he turned off the lights and told us to look around and count all the paper fish we found. Most of us found about 20-30 fish the first time. After that, Josh opened the doors and told us to look again.

This time, most of us found 40-60 fish. A few of us found more. Josh turned on some of the lights and we counted fish one more time. Most of us found the same number as last time. Some people found tons of fish, but Josh told us that we were seeing things. In reality, there were only 61 fish. Some fish were blue, but most were red.

Also, some fish were taped on to the walls and some were taped to different pieces of colored paper. When all the lights were off, it was nearly impossible to see the red sea creatures on the dark paper. Some students had to get their faces within 2 inches of the wall to see the fish on the blue and black paper! It was easier to see the fish on the pink and green paper. It was really easy to see the fish taped directly to the walls, because the fish looked black and the walls were white.

After our experiment in the gym, we went back into our classroom. Josh explained that even though red sea crea-



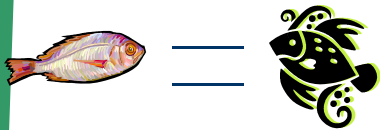
Our edible gardens have sprouted and they are doing well! Come see them at the Driftwood playground.

tures look black deep underwater, they still need to hide, because the sea floor looks lighter colored than they do.

After he was done talking about the experiment, Josh gave us paper fraction pies divided into six slices. Each person colored the fraction pies in this order: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and violet.

Then, we measured out pieces of yarn and attached the color wheels to the yarn. When we twisted the yarn and straitened it, the wheels spun quickly and appeared to be white.

Marine Biology is great and we look forward to having Josh coming to teach us about the ocean.



Our beans and garlic are finally growing!

After coming back from Christmas break, Mrs. Weinblatts 5th grade class was astonished to see that our plants were nearly 6 inches tall!

In the space of only 7

weeks, the plants have grown big enough and strong enough to endure Oregon's windy, cold winters.

While planting our gardens, we have also practiced our math! Our class had to figure out how much soil, com-

post, and straw to use, how many seeds to put in each row, and how many seeds could be used in each garden box.

After all our hard work, 5th grade is glad to see that the plants are growing and surviving the winter.

Edible Gardens Sprouting