

December 2020

# Barkell Elementary

## Newsletter

Hancock Public Schools



## Principal Announcements

- Thank you to all who helped out with the Bulldog Christmas Shop! The support was overwhelming like it always is. We are very fortunate to live in a community that is so supportive of our schools.
- Please consider writing your child's name on their winter gear. We find many items every day and are able to return them if they have a name. When there is no name, it goes to lost and found and unfortunately, very few items are ever claimed.
- Lego League begins on January 7th.
- Please consider helping out our PTO. They do a lot for our school and could use a few volunteers to help with various events. You do not need to come to all of the PTO meetings to be a volunteer. They are looking for individuals who can help once or twice per year.
- Please don't hesitate to contact me if there is anything I can do to help.

Sincerely,

Dan Vaara– Barkell Elementary Principal

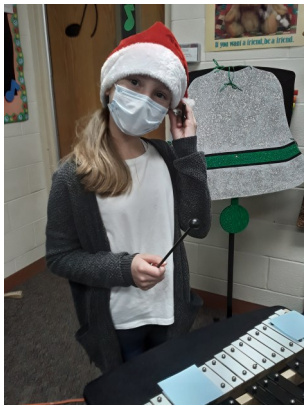


### Upcoming Events:

- 1/7                      Lego League begins
- 1/13                     1:46 dismissal
- 1/21                     1/2 day dismissal at 11:50
- 1/22                     1/2 dismissal at 11:50



# Christmas Performances



Brenna performs on the xylophone



Third graders wait for their performance



Brandi takes a break from her performance



Luciano plays the xylophone



Fifth graders perform their final show at Barkell



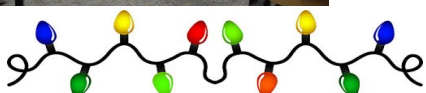
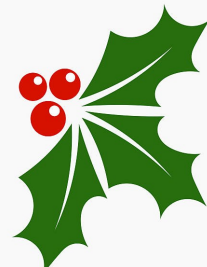
Young Fives gets ready for their performance



Third graders and fourth graders focus on their performance



Ted and Allie play a Christmas tune





# Bulldog Scientists

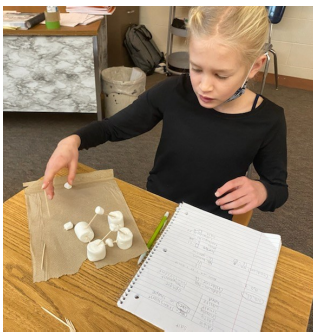


Tatum works on her crystals

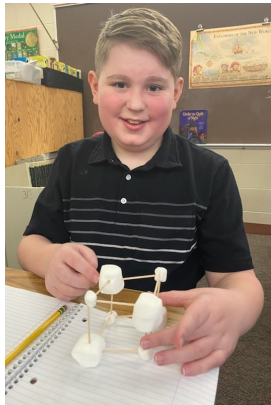
Barkell Elementary fifth graders have been learning about Science through a number of fun hands on explorations. Students learned about surface tension with a neat water droplet experiment. They also learned about crystals and chemical change through a fun Christmas project. The students also build molecules using marshmallows and toothpicks.



Gage and Chase build their crystals



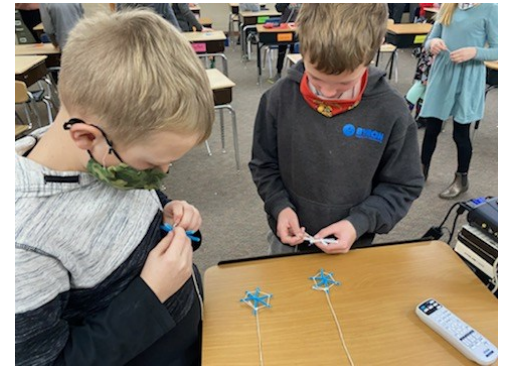
Aleena builds her molecule



Andrew poses for a quick pic with his project



Karma and Mindy work together



Shawn and Trevor are working hard



Teddy focuses on his project



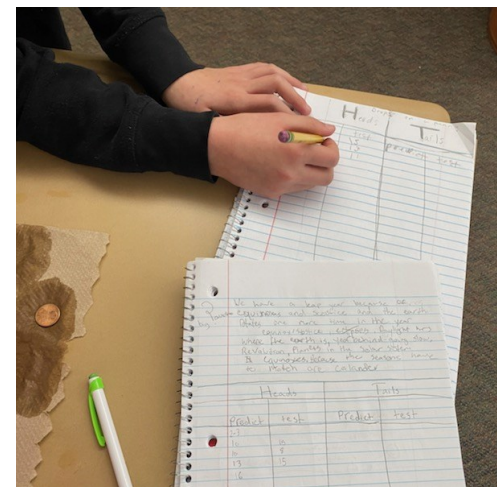
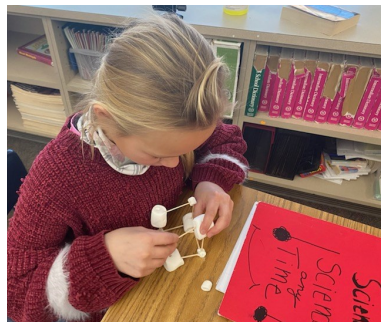
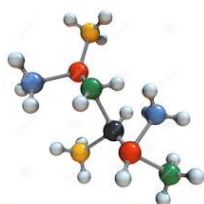
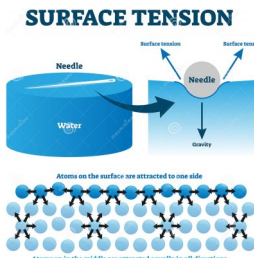
Chase and Isaac test how many drops their penny can hold



Gabe drops water on his penny



An unidentified fifth grader creates her crystal structure



Students fill in their data charts as they progress through the investigation



# Young Fives News



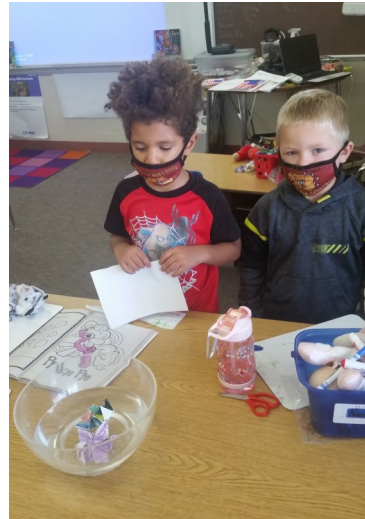
Young Fives students have fun sliding down the hill



Young Fives students take a break for a quick snack



Mrs. Koskela's students take an exercise break



Ramesse and Owen work on a project together



Students check out a giant Santa and pose for a class photo

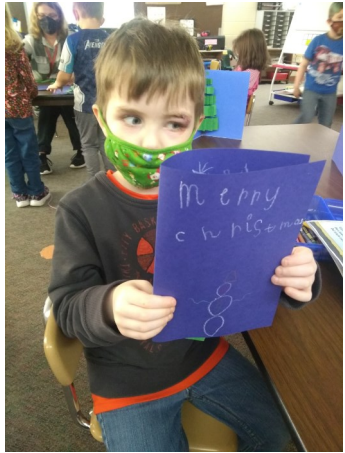




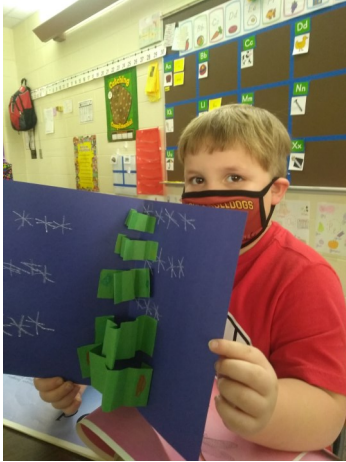
# Kindergarten News



Students in Mrs. Carlson's class have fun making Christmas Cards for the residents of Mission Point, Canal View, and Portage Point. The cards will be delivered this week.



Matthew shows the card he made



Jaxon and Cami display the Christmas Tree they created in their cards



Walter is working on his Christmas Card



Nola gets the pieces ready for her tree



Aryana and Anna show their STEM design



Students in Mrs. Carlson's class learn about classification as they sort objects by shape, size and color



Arshad sorted his shapes by color



Students sort their objects



Cami and Matthew pose for a quick photo



Nadine sorts her shapes by color





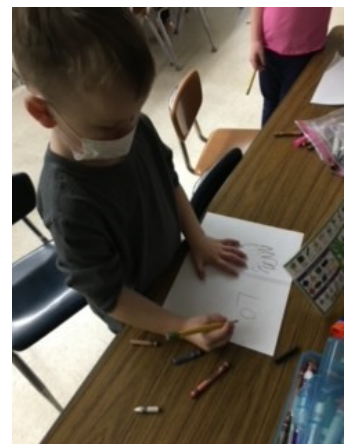
# Kindergarten News



Barkell Elementary students spent the last couple of days before break creating Christmas cards for each of our local senior care centers. Students enjoyed spreading Christmas cheer to the residents of Canal View, Mission Point, and Portage Point by handcrafting cards to all of the residents.



Jillian adds color to her gingerbread man card



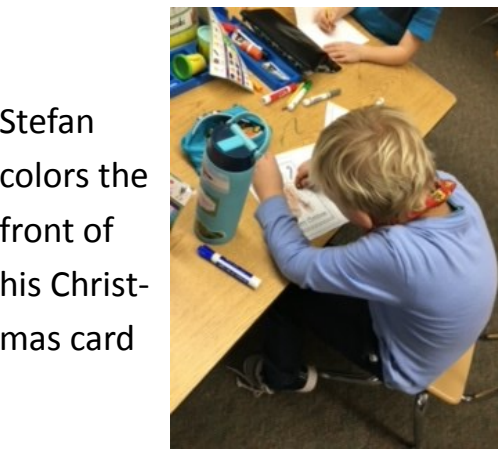
Everett signs the card he just finished



Alexis signs her name inside her card.



Mila looks over her coloring



Stefan colors the front of his Christmas card



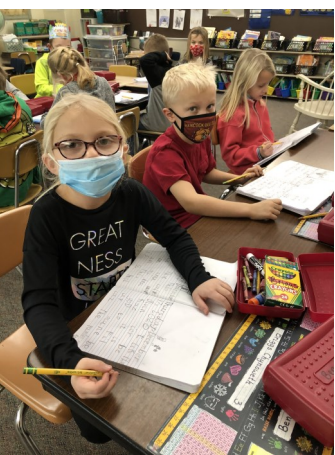
Madeline draws a picture inside her Christmas Card for the elderly



Ellie works on her gingerbread card for the elderly

# First Grade News

Barkell Elementary first graders spent another December doing chores around the house to earn money for those in need. The students raised an incredible \$135.56 for the Cheer Club of the Salvation Army.



Briggs and Dennis write about their work experience



Charlotte writes about the work she did for the Giving Jar



# Holidays Around the World



Every December, 2nd graders at Barkell learn about traditions. Each second grader shares an important tradition from their own family. They present to the class and do an amazing job answering all the wonderful questions their classmates ask! We also learn about traditions from around the world. Students learn about holiday traditions from several countries, including: Mexico, Israel, China, Russia, and Italy. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to learn about how their own traditions are similar and different from others.



Second graders display their La Befanas



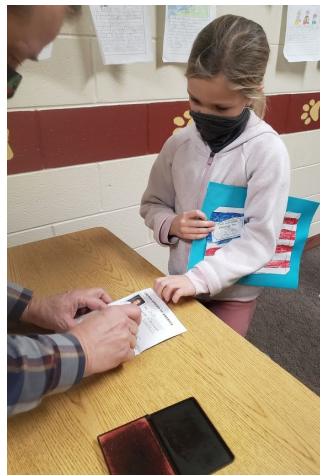
Jonathan and Kendall plan their next stop



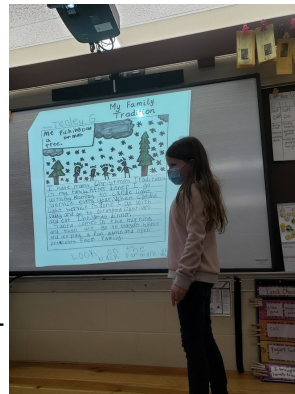
Aaliyah learns about China



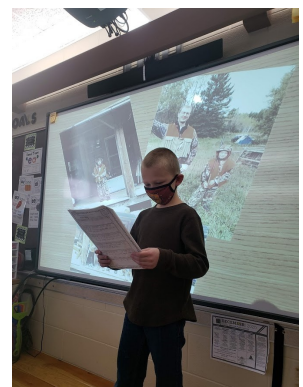
Sophia shows her work



Jacie has her passport punched



Tenley and Weston share their family traditions.

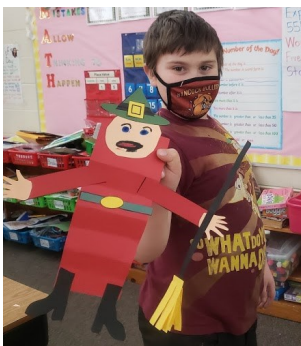


Liam, Bruce, Bentley, and Lewis play the Dreidel game

Henry works on his Christmas stocking

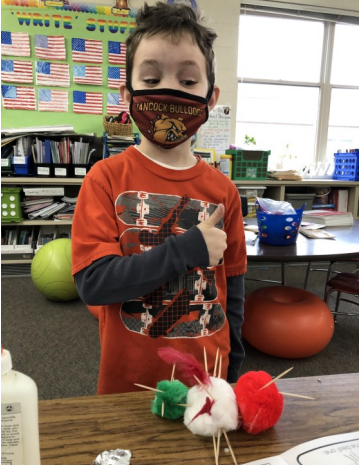
Jackson presents on his family traditions

Caleb displays the La Befana that he created

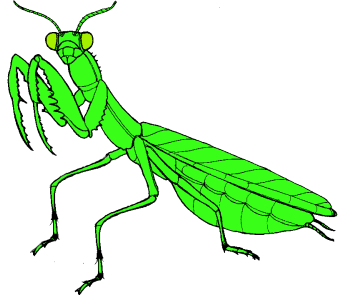




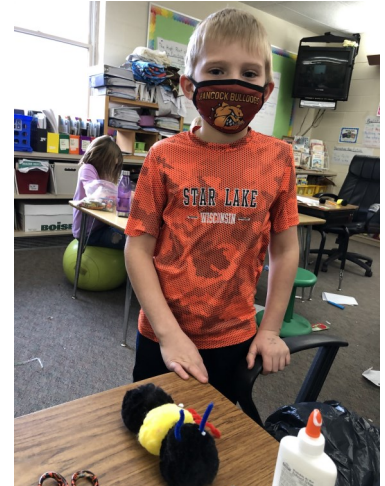
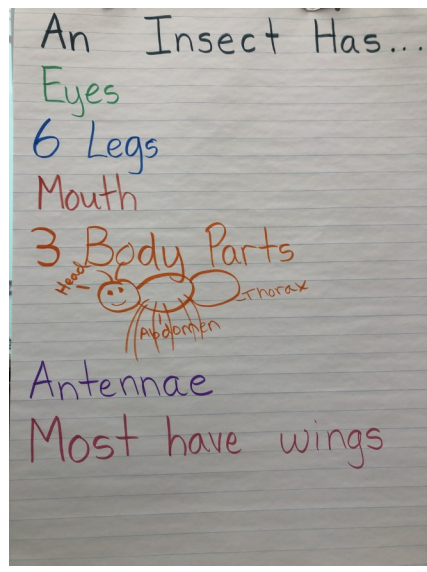
# Second Grade News



Christopher poses with his insect



Second graders in Mrs. Nordmark's class had fun learning about Science. Students read about the characteristics of insects and then used that information to design their own insect.



Ian designed a black and gold insect



Boden and Bryn show us their insects



# Third Grade News



In November, Mrs. Cavis' 3rd grade class explored our school Nature Trail on an outdoor field trip. An instructor from Michigan Tech University lead our class around the trail. We were learning about how animals adapt to their environment. On our outdoor adventure students looked for signs of animals by looking at the tracks in the mud and snow and also animals signs on the trees. Students enjoyed learning about how animals adapt to our cold winter environment.

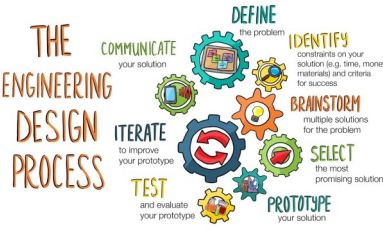


Students search for sign of animal life on our school nature trail

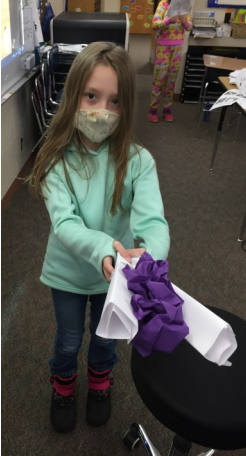
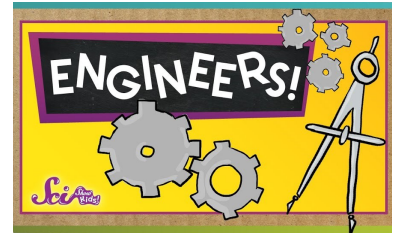




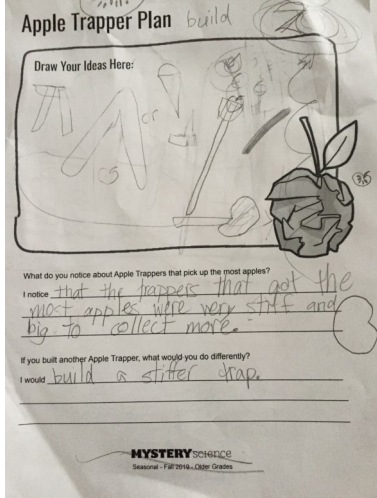
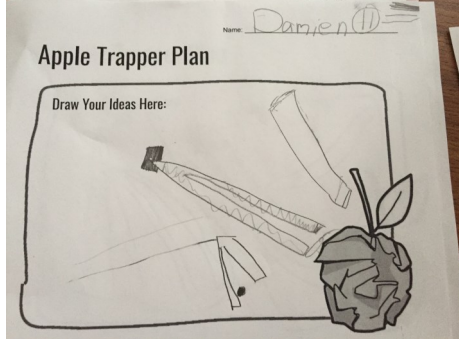
# Third Grade Engineers



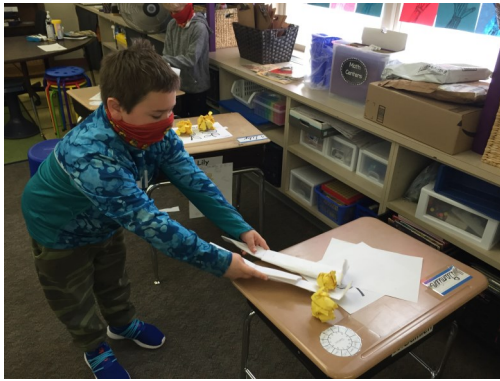
Students in Mrs. Knuuttla's classroom used the engineering design process to design, build, test, and modify Apple Trapper inventions. Everyone had a fun time learning about engineering.



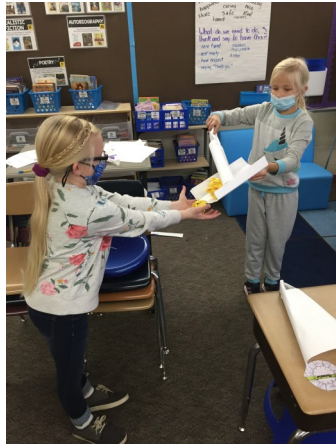
Taylor shows her trap



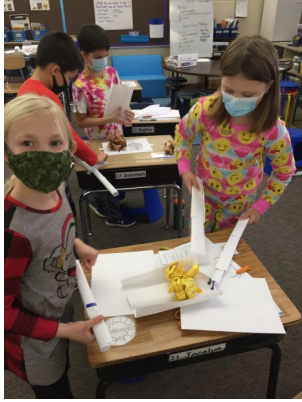
Sophia tries out her design



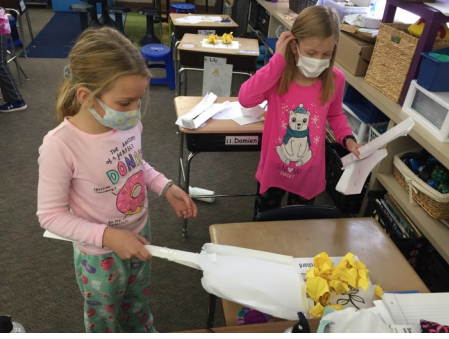
Brietta, Eviona, and Tyler test their designs



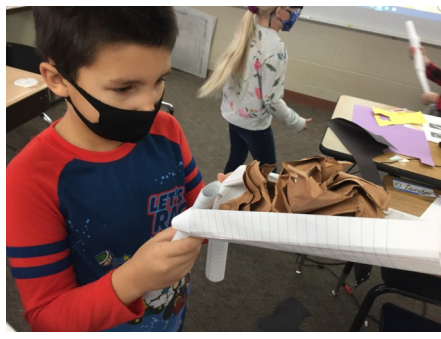
Gracie and Amelia work together



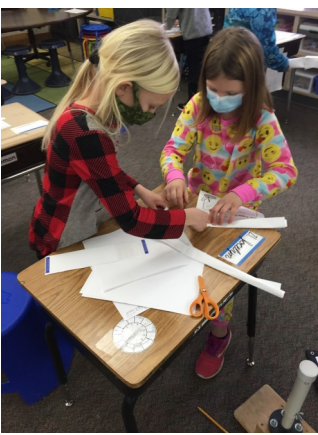
Jocelyn and Lily work on their Apple Trapper



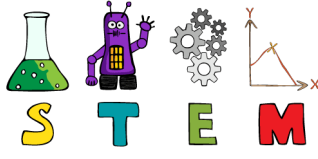
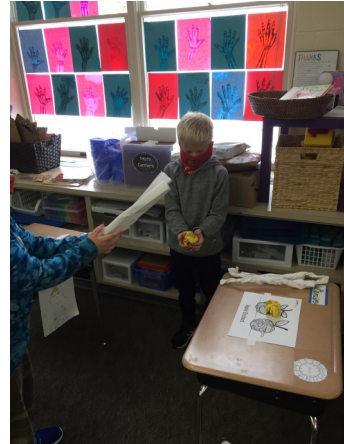
Myles focuses on his design



Myles and Solomon concentrate on their trapper



Damien catches the apple

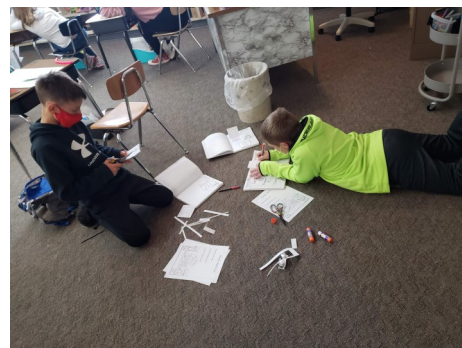




# Fifth Grade News



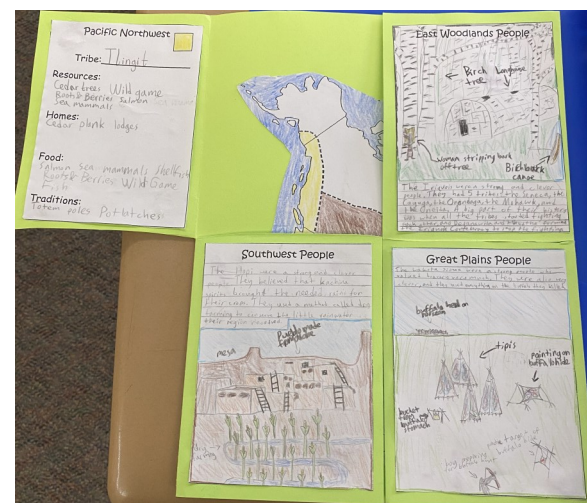
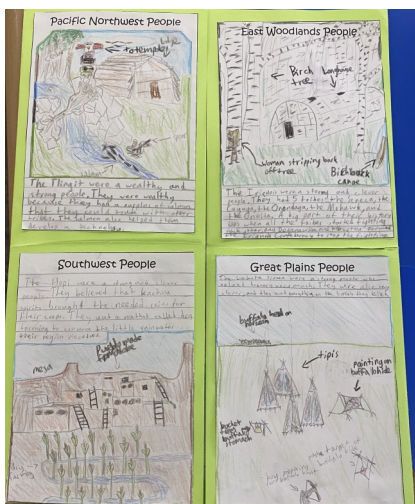
5th graders have been working hard in Reading. Everyday we say "Reading is Thinking!". Students have been able to explore and have rich discussions about a plethora of books from fantasy to biographies to realistic fiction. Students then get to choose how they present or share the information they have learned. Recently, they learned about a man that was the first one to decipher Egyptian hieroglyphs. Then, many students chose to create their own hieroglyphic message. We also did an author study of Joyce Sidman, who loves to write poetry mostly about nature and animals. Some students chose to create collages based off of a poem by Joyce Sidman



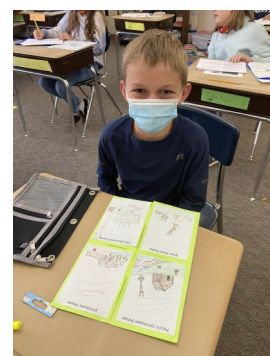
Students work on their hieroglyphic messages



5th grade students review Native American regions by creating lap books to study the big ideas learned in the unit.



Gage poses for a photo with his lap book



A student works on her project





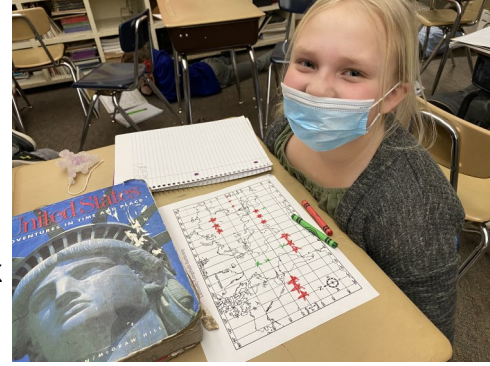
# Fifth Grade News



Fifth graders in Mrs. Maki's class had fun learning about latitude and longitude lines through a fun game of Battleship.

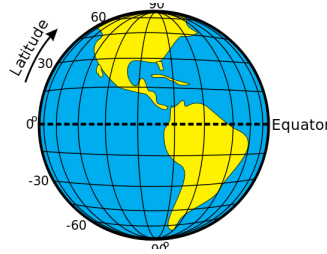
Luciano studies his next move

LillyAnn takes a break to smile for a picture

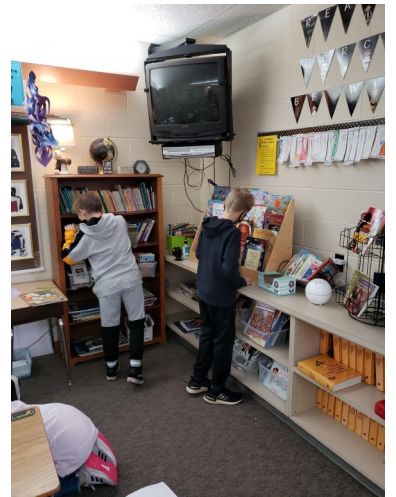
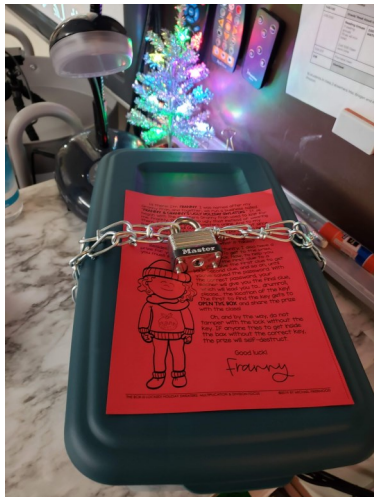
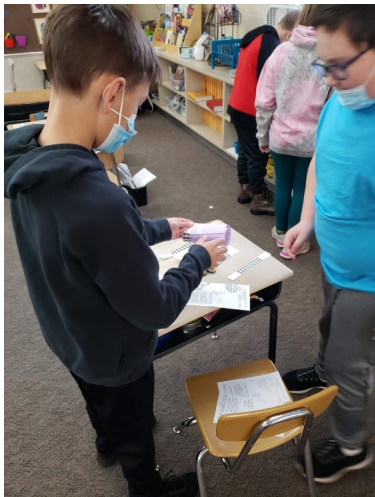


Brandi and Brenna study their maps

Kalia and Kylie compete in a fun game of "Battleship"



5th graders had a joyous time in December. They were able to shop for family members in our Bulldog Shop, celebrate many birthdays, and play an exciting game of Unlock the Box. It was a wonderful way to end 2020 and get ready for all the amazing learning and adventures that await in 2021!



Students enjoy an exciting game of Unlock the Box



Students enjoy shopping for family members at the Bulldog Christmas Shop.





# Barkell Elementary Thanks:



- \* **Tim Givens** for working to secure generous donations for our Christmas Shop
- \* **Ellie Alexander** for her generous donation of mittens
- \* **Kathryn Jordan** for her generous donation of games
- \* **Bobbi Bicigo and Protea Floral Design** for her generous donation towards lunch bills
- \* **Country inn and Suites** for their generous donation of hygiene items
- \* **Gloria Dei** for their generous donation of hats and mittens
- \* **Loui's Fresh Market** for their generous donation of winter jackets
- \* **Caroline Muonio** for her generous donation of bakery for staff
- \* **Jim's Pizza** for their generous donation of pizza certificates



1. All visitors must report to the office. Please do not go to the classroom once the day has begun.
2. Please remember to call the attendance line when your child is absent.
3. Please remember to check the lost and found. We have quite a few unclaimed belongings.

## Bulldog Christmas Shop



**Thank you to all who helped make the Bulldog Christmas Shop happen!**

## Barkell Elementary needs help with:

- \*We are in need of board games (used or new) for our students to use during indoor recess.
- \*We are in need of extra art supplies for our indoor recess arts and crafts program.
- \*We are in need of Legos for our Lego club

