

# @ Our PMS Library

October & November, 2011

## A Thinking Education.

When the 8th grade science classes researched elements, students individually studied one element, came together with others into element families to evaluate & compare each group-member's findings, and finally the entire class stood up and collaboratively analyzed their data. The awesome 8th grade science teachers asked students to represent one element, and place themselves on a continuum from "most" to "least." Teachers called out "harmful or helpful" and "air, water, earth...;" students cooperated to determine where each element might fall. At home students synthesize their learning by reviewing their personal use of elements & whether they might need to make changes.



## What's Going On?



Sixth graders visited the library for book talks and to research ancient civilizations with their Core classes. In science some continued Discovery Voyage work and all investigated different biomes of the earth.



Seventh graders researched contributions the people of the Islamic Empire made to modern science, math, medicine, literature, art and architecture. Teacher librarians led a game to review what students learned. Core classes also enjoyed book talks. Science classes researched food additives.

Eighth graders began their historical fiction novel study; each student selects a novel from a large list of teacher-selected titles. Science classes researched the periodic table of elements and their families.

## What are they saying?

- "The Schwa Was Here was a great book."
- "Please, please, please can I be first to read that new book!"
- "What? There is an eagle that eats monkeys in my biome!"
- "Ooooh, can kids check out iPads too?"

Introducing Juliana Wisdom  
our new Library Tech Manager



"Ms. Wisdom has wisdom!"

## Ask Your Sixth Grader

How do you take an OCAR note for biomes?

## Ask Your Seventh Grader

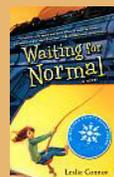
What important contributions to math were made by the people of the Islamic Empire?

## Ask Your Eighth Grader

Which historical fiction novel did you choose?  
Why did you choose it?

## California Young Reader's Medal

These CYRM winners are chosen by kids. We have several copies of each nominated title; students can choose to read all the titles in a category & cast their ballot for their favorite book! Help choose the CYRM winners this year!



more information at:  
<http://piedmont.k12.ca.us/pms/faculty/pmslibrary/>