

# Ms. McCarty's Memo

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2018

## Kindergarten

Kinders have been learning a lot about color! Students loved the book Mouse Paint, which was a great introduction to learning about how primary colors make secondary colors when mixed together. Students experimented with color through finger painting with primaries as well! Also this quarter, we painted a lot of paper, similar to the style of author/illustrator Eric Carle, to create animals like the ones he made in some of our favorite stories we read together this year. Finally, we finished off our Color Unit by painting with water on "bleeding tissue paper," to create new colors, which the students absolutely loved! Can't wait to use these tie-dye designs to create seahorses & rainbow fish to go with more stories we will read soon!



## 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

First graders learned about a lot about shapes and forms during 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter. Students have been super excited about their Shape Cities! Each class worked as a community to design a unique city made of paper shapes, and each student had a say and an artistic hand in the creation! These little city designers worked so hard, and many recognized their hard work once they went up for display in the hallways. Mrs. Kuhn's class city project was even selected for display at WSD's Berrey-Place! Finally, students learned how to roll and pinch clay to create a snail! Students were so excited to get their snails back, I heard from their teachers they were calling it "Happy Snail Day!" Seeing their eyes light up when they got them back after the firing, and then again after they were glazed, is what makes my job so rewarding!

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

During 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students learned about Shape & Form. After learning about the artist Kandinsky, students recreated one of his abstract works by tearing paper to create organic shapes. Finally, students created pizzas out of clay, using organic and geometric shapes to create the toppings! These were so much fun!



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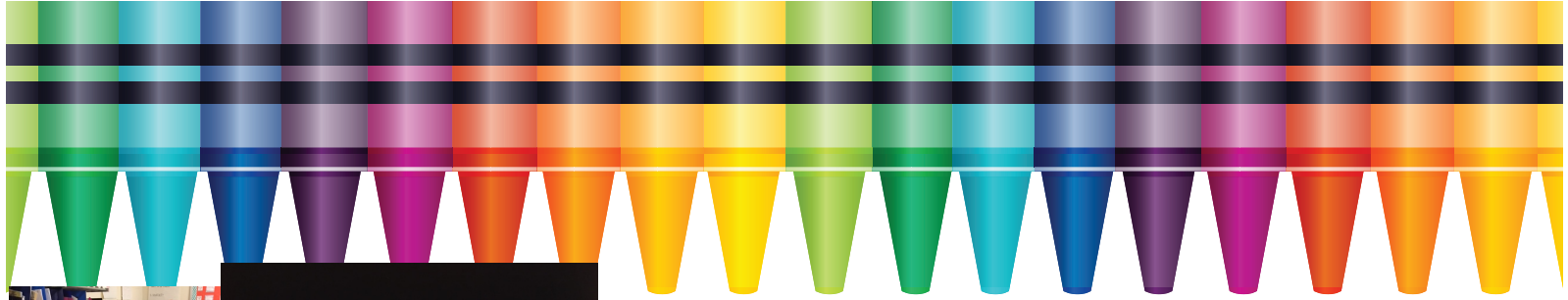
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## 3rd Grade

Since 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are tested on their knowledge of geometric and organic shapes, we hit our Shape & Form unit hard, but in a fun way! 3<sup>rd</sup> graders created "Organic (& Geometric) Pizzas" out of paper bags and paper, using shapes to create the toppings. Finally, we read the book, *A Fish Out of Water*, about a fish that grew too big for his bowl, and like the story, we created fish too big for their environments. Students sculpted fish out of clay, with scale-like surface texture, and created either a bathtub or fish tank environment for their fish. The kids loved making these & they turned out so cute!

## 4th Grade

During our Shape & Form unit, 4<sup>th</sup> graders have been creating Geometric Value Scales, a project that uses line, geometric shapes, symmetry, complimentary colors, and value scales in it's very design. Students also practiced making coils and pinch-pots in clay, in order to better prepare for their actual project, where they will be applying these techniques to make clay containers that look like cupcakes!



## 5th Grade

During our Shape & Form unit, 5<sup>th</sup> graders were placed into groups based on their multiple intelligences, or ways they learn best. Each student had a specific job based on their individual learning style. Groups were challenged with the task of creating a container with a lid out of clay. Students were given examples to look at and the basic curriculum and project guidelines, however, they were not given any further instruction. Groups competed to see whose container would be the most successful, which had proper clay techniques, and which could possibly survive the kiln. Although not many would have survived, most looked pretty good for not have been given much direction and I was impressed with the way students worked together! I also loved seeing the kids shine through their own individual strengths with their jobs. Finally, I gave a demonstration of how to properly construct the containers, and students were given time to create and paint their own individual projects. Not only do I feel students were more successful in their own projects because of the experimentation with groups, but I hope they will retain their learning about clay & have fun memories to cherish as well!



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