

BRAD TAYLOR
Information Coordinator
920.492.2905 ext. 1017
E-mail: btaylor@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us



MEDIA RELEASE

For More Information, Contact:

Lisa Sanderfoot, 5th Grade Teacher
Valley View Elementary School
920-492-2935, ext.3333
lsanderfoot@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us

Valley View Fifth Graders Pilot 'City X' 3-D Modeling

Ashwaubenon, WI – March 9, 2015 – Two 5th grade homerooms at Ashwaubenon's Valley View Elementary School are gaining experience as space designers of the future. The City X project gives students futuristic problems to solve by utilizing a design process and 3-D modeling. Starting this week students will be presenting their solutions and 3-D printed models to their classmates.

Katie Senger's and Lisa Sanderfoot's homerooms have been piloting this new science unit, which has its roots in the Midwest, for more than a month. Corey Hansen, Valley View's Library Media Specialist, has been helping out with the design process and 3-D printing of the students' designs. City X was developed by IdeaCo, a Chicago non-profit, and has been used by students ages 8-12 around the world. It helps develop cutting edge skills in problem-solving and design, and is typically taught as part of a school's science curriculum.

Valley View 5th grader Aidan Averbeck says, "City X is a really good and fun experience. I had a great time and the 3-D printing is incredible." Aidan created a Remembering Pin to solve a problem for Omar who does not want to forget what life was like on Earth. Sami O'Connell, also a 5th grader at Valley View, explains, "I invented the Bête de Soleil to gather the sun around you when you put it next to yourself. It takes the sun's rays and heat, and then converts them into energy. So the sun box is also functional for a telephone, cooler, radio and a CD player, because there is a problem with sunscreen on City X." The teachers have noticed how excited the students are to see their designs printed and to stop in the media center to check on the progress of the 3-D printer.

For additional information or to participate in the sharing of student designs, contact Lisa Sanderfoot, Valley View 5th Grade Teacher, at 920-492-2935, extension 3333 or lsanderfoot@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us.

Pictures attached:

ASD-VV-CityX3d-AverbeckPic.jpg – Aiden Averbeck's Remembering Pin.

ASD-VV-CityX3d-OconnellPic.jpg – Sami O'Connell's Bête de Soleil.

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