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## Kent State University AT&T Classroom

### RCET Establishes Satellite Schools for Technology Mentoring Program

During the fall of 2006 The Research Center for Educational Technology established satellite schools in surrounding school districts. The purpose of this program was to encourage the mentoring of colleagues on the integration of technology into the curriculum. To follow up this process, two of the teacher teams of mentor and mentees taught in the AT&T classroom as a part of the 2008-2009 Cohort. These teachers are from Holden Elementary School in Kent and Fishcreek Elementary School in Stow. The teachers will return during the 2009-2010 school year to repeat the unit of study with adjustments and improvements.

### Fishcreek Elementary Teachers Design Health Unit Based on Fitness and Wellness

**Lauren Alexander, Julie Obraza and Deb Miller** of Fishcreek Elementary School in Stow designed a unit based on fitness and wellness called "All Systems Go": "A Third Grader's Guide to Keeping Your Body at Optimal Performance". The students began their study with a complete overview of proper nutrition. This involved an introductory lesson from a speaker on nutrition, Deanna Lavanty of Kent State University. A field trip to the food lab in Nixon Hall gave the students the opportunity to touch and taste a wide variety of nutritious foods. Healthy snacks was the main focus of Greta Siler who created delicious "smoothies" for the students to sample. Throughout the unit, students recorded their daily intake of foods on their Palm Handheld Computers. The students transferred this information daily to an Internet site [mypyramid.gov](http://mypyramid.gov), This website creates a graphical display comparing the student's actual intake of nutrients to the ideal diet plan for a child of that age and size. This graph was printed and the students shared this information with their parents.

Students in groups created and filmed short videos using Flip Cams on nutrients, carbohydrates, vitamins, exercises and fats and oils. Scripts based on information learned were put together by the students. These included songs which they sang to the lyrics of classic children's songs. Students rated each video using the following three questions:

Does it make sense and taught information about the topic?

Did every person in the group play an equal part?

Did you enjoy the video and think it should be on television?

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RCET

Research Center for  
Educational Technology

Winter 2008



Fishcreek Elementary  
Mentor Team



Nixon Hall Food Lab



What is a Serving Size?

## Teleconferencing With Cleveland Clinic



The health unit highlighted three body systems: the digestive, skeletal and muscular. As an introduction to the skeletal system the classes had a teleconference with the Cleveland Clinic. The educator, Tracey Meilander, gave the students examples of the varieties of bones and their functions for the human body. She also emphasized the importance of a good diet with proper vitamins and minerals for healthy bones. Tracey challenged the children to create stick figures, with straws substituting for bones and a vertebral column using craft materials, to show the role of the bones in supporting our upright carriage.

## 3-D Visualization of Digestive System

Dr. Jim Blank, chairman of the Biology Department, loaned a 72 -inch DPL plasma screen with 3D software to the AT&T Classroom enabling students to look at various objects in a new way. Along with 3D viewing glasses, the students were able to examine the digestive system, the skeleton including the skull as well as MRIs of the brain. Research on the impact of the 3D visualization to learning is being conducted by the RCET staff.



## Claymation Requires Patience But the Rewards Are Great!

Mimicking the action of the digestive system was the aim of the third graders as they planned a claymation of the process. Each group prepared a storyboard illustrating what the final product would be. Clay representations of the digestive organs were constructed as well as backgrounds for the mini-production. Once all of the preparations were complete, the students photographed the sequence of events using many carefully adjusted camera shots. The result was a series of animations that displayed food moving through the digestive tract as it is digested.



Writing the Script



Creating the Clay Figures



Creating the Background



Filming the Process

