



The Galaxies Go To Brazil

In March, the Galaxies launched into a new Social Studies topic—a series of country studies beginning with Brazil.

The Galaxies learned about the geography, natural resources, language, holidays, and food of Brazil, and they created their own research booklets containing all this information. They also learned about an indigenous tribe from the Amazon Rain Forest called the Yanomami. In addition, the class got to watch a wonderful presentation on Brazil and its animals by Rafael.



Rafael shows the class a piranha during his presentation about Brazil

As part of their country studies unit, the Galaxies will have the chance to practice creating and reading



Troy makes a Brazilian treat called a “brigadeiro”

different kinds of maps. For their Brazil study, the Galaxies created their own large-scale population density map.

After we complete our study of Brazil, the Galaxies will begin learning about India and China. These units will include field trips to “Little India” in the Jackson Heights neighborhood of Queens and a performance by “Dance China” at the Harlem Stage in April.

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April Birthdays



Rachel — April 17

Linda — April 18

Marco — April 26

Language Arts

In March, the Galaxies finished reading the realistic fiction book Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo. We celebrated our completion of the book with a party based on the



Max serves egg salad sandwiches at the Winn Dixie celebration party

culminating scene: the Galaxies ate egg salad sandwiches and drank “Dump Punch”, a juice drink created by one of the

characters in the book, while they watched the movie adaptation.

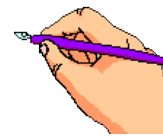


“The Fox” from Circle in the Square Theater’s performance of Aesop’s Fables.

On March 9, the Galaxies went on a field trip to Circle in the Square Theater, where the class watched a musical version of Aesop’s Fables. The boys loved this interactive children’s production which brought to life the fables we read and acted out in class.

In Writer’s Workshop, the

Galaxies have been hard at work learning to revise their writing. They are now using a Revision Checklist to edit their work, which covers mechanics as well as



content. The students are asked to elaborate on their

ideas and add new adjectives and details to their writing as they reread and revise. They have also been learning about character problems and developing endings for stories.

Up next in writing: the Galaxies will be learning to write expository paragraphs.

VIP Day

On March 19, the Gillen Brewer School held its annual V.I.P. day. Students invited a “Very Important Person” to join them at school for activities and snacks.

The Galaxies had fun showing their V.I.P.s around the classroom and working with them on activity booklets of mazes, puzzles, and word games.

The Galaxies also en-

joyed a delicious lunch of tacos and ice cream sundaes with their V.I.P.s.



Benny and Dovid work on activity booklets with their V.I.P.s

Specials

In Art, the Galaxies created self-portraits this month. They studied their faces in



Eli with his self portrait

mirrors and practiced drawing their features several times before setting paintbrush to canvas. All their hard work paid off—the class created a beautiful series of self-portraits.

In Science, the Galaxies learned about energy, electricity, circuits, and charges.

Up next, they will be studying organisms in their habitats and ecosystems.

The Galaxy Gallery



Troy and Dovid play Tic Tac Toe during Friday morning games.



Rafi and Marco make brigadeiros during our study of Brazil.



Jeremy works on his self portrait in Art.



Benny works on his self portrait in Art.



Rafael and Eli spend time with their V.I.P.s.



Max and Troy work on activity booklets with their V.I.P.s.



Benny, Kye, and Rafi play Trouble with Middy during Friday morning game time.