

8 grade

SCIENCE *comes alive*

*****INQUIRY THROUGH ACTION*****



DATES

March 9th - Hopson Middle School Science Fair (Library)

March 18-19 State Science Fair in Anchorage (Begich M.S.)

March 26th State Science Olympiad Competition in Anchorage (UAA)

Deposition Tubes were used in lab to model the layering of sediments as they form a stream bed or a delta. Students were able to discuss the formation of alluvial fans, deposition of deltas, erosion, and how sedimentary rocks are formed

✧ Hands-on Opportunities ✧

Students continue to explore the world through science! Students have tested variables by making pendulums; measuring Thermal Conductivity of glass versus styrofoam; using compound bars, conduct-o-meters, and ball and rig apparatus to test characteristic properties of metals; testing the solubility of substances; causing chemical reactions... and a lot more!

ACTIVITY

Lab Activities: Stream Table

Students examined the role deposition, erosion and channel profile play in river development. Delta formation was modeled as students created the old Mississippi River compared to the Grand



DEPOSITION TUBE

once they completed this activity. Students then were able to use this model of deposition to hypothesize what would happen if precipitation in an area were to increase or decrease.



Lab: Topographic Mapping

Students worked on figuring out how scientists make two dimensional maps of the world.

Using model mountains, students created topographic maps of mountains. They then compared these and learned how to better read maps for traveling in the wilderness. These students should now be able to travel without a GPS!





Lagoon Ice and Snow Studies

☺ On Fridays students put on their coats, mittens, hats and snow pants and head out onto Esatkuat Lagoon. Once there, students drill into the ice to measure ice thickness, collect snow samples to measure density, take temperature readings at the ice surface, take air temperature readings, and compare them to the temperatures. Students are looking for trends in ice development as well as collecting data for scientists at UAF as part of the ALISON project.

☺ Students set a transect each visit on the ice and work together to collect the data they then discuss in class.



Separation Lab

So how do you tell if you have a compound or a mixture? Students used their scientific intuition to create a lab procedure in order to separate three substances. Using magnets, balloons, sieves, hot plates, tweezers, and anything else they could get their hands on, students worked their combined substances into separate piles.

Reading Made Fun

Students worked out the puzzle of a Chemistry Graphic Organizer as they learned about elements, compounds and mixtures.



Carbon Souffle???

So what happens when you take sugar and mix it with sulfuric acid? Right before their eyes, students watched as sugar 'melted', dissolved, turned colors, chemically burned, released a gas that smelled really bad, grew, and made a new substance. Sugar turned into water vapor, black carbon... and a mess!

