

Week 7 Overview

9/29 - 10/3



This week in **Science**, Ravens delved deeper into the engineering design process by thinking about how to identify a problem and come up with a good design question. They watched short videos about biomimetic designs and how they came about and practiced identifying the problems and possible design questions. Then they interviewed a student from the Jays class about problems that occur in their daily lives. They chose one to create a problem statement and design question. We also worked in our science notebooks to record new vocabulary related to adaptations. Our fieldwork at the Marine Science Institute gave us real life examples of the concepts we are inquiring into!

In **Humanities** this week students learned about Epistolary Writing. **ASK your student to tell you what it is.** We practiced this style of writing by choosing to write a letter or diary entry. Then choosing a character and writing about something that happened to this character. Students were to give details about feelings and maybe even a problem or hope for the future. Students then switched letters or diary entries with a partner and had to respond back. **Ask your student about the activity.** This will prepare us for writing our letters from E. Lilian Todd next week.

In SEL, Ravens discussed the importance of sleep, reflected on their sleep routines, and wrote down a goal for this routine in their journals.

Talking Points/Reminders:

- **NO SCHOOL on Oct 13**
- **MAP reports** were shared last week. They are available on the [Parent Portal](#) under My Children



[Ravens Class Photo Album](#)

[Javens Camping Photo Album](#)

Week 6 Overview

9/22-9/26



This week in **Science**, Ravens made the connection between bird wings and planes to how adaptations evolved in living things over long periods of time. We discussed how dinosaurs slowly evolved to have feathers and flight because of how these traits helped them survive in their environment. After reading about the adaptations of 4 characters and their ecosystems, students played an online game called “Flap to the Future” where they got to experience how each adaptation benefitted each of the characters in the game. Please ask your child to explain the adaptations in the game to you and how they helped each character survive past each level, and maybe even give it a try yourself! Then Ravens turned back to the engineering design process and discussed how

In **Humanities** this week our class explored the life of E Lilian Todd by reading two stories: Miss Todd and Wood, Wire, and Wings. We learned about Lilian’s early life, her determination to follow her dreams, and perseverance in the face of failure. We discussed the difference between fiction and historical fiction as well. We also discussed the difference between primary and secondary sources and looked at some examples.

We are still in the beginning stages of passion projects and this week our class shared their ideas for topics and learned what they had in common. During SEL we reviewed zones of regulation and created SEL toolboxes for strategies we know work for various big feeling triggers,

Talking Points/Reminders:

- **MAP reports** were shared last week. They are available on the [Parent Portal](#) under My Children
- **Field work Sept 30** to the Marine Science Institute-
 - Please be on time for school
 - Have your child wear their yellow Helios T-shirt
 - Send a packed snack/lunch



LOST AND FOUND:
Does this belong to you?



Week 5 Overview

9/14-9/19

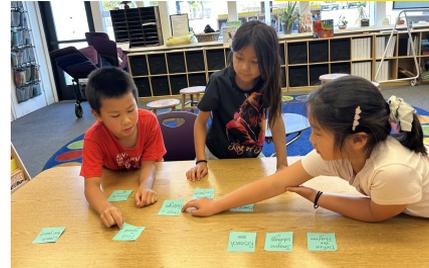


This week in **Science**, Ravens delved into the engineering design process, comparing bird wings and flight styles to airplane wings and flight. We analyzed the different types of wings and the impact they have on flight and redesigned our original airplane designs using the new information, hoping to increase efficiency and performance. We also continued practicing our observational skills in our nature journals by playing a partner game where partners switched journals and tried to identify each other's specimens.

This week in **Humanities**, Ravens continued thinking about where ideas come from. We took some time to research famous inventors and inventions and found some insightful information. Not all ideas are first-hand. Some are ideas that already existed and were improved upon like the Kingfisher Train in Japan. Students also became historians and took a gallery walk looking at images to learn more about the history of flight. We will continue to learn more about flight through the eyes of E. Lilian Todd and what her experiences might have been like. **ASK YOUR STUDENT:** Which inventor or invention did you research?

Talking Points/Reminders:

- Lit Circle started today!
- Field work Sept 30
- Ask your child about their revised paper airplane designs.



9/8-9/12



This week we were proud of all the Ravens for completing our first camping trip together and enduring some less than ideal weather. Attitudes remained positive and we worked together to create memorable experiences.

We also started talking about “Ideas” and where they come from and created our own “Idea” metaphors.

Next week we will begin separating into theme groups for Humanities and Science as we delve into investigation 1 of our Inspired by Nature theme.

- Talk with your child about what during camping that we can try into the classroom.
- Next Thursday is Back-to-School

What worked well during camping that we can bring into our classroom?

Teamwork ↳ Paying attention and noticing when someone is in need
 Helping each other (even without being asked)
 • Being comfortable being uncomfortable
 ↳ keeping a positive attitude
 • Laughing and having fun together
 • Being curious
 • Being open to new experiences
 ↳ taking risks / learn new things
 • Following safety guidelines
 • Being flexible when plans/conditions change





Week 3 Overview

9/2-9/5

Talking Points/Reminders:

- Helios Hour started today
- Ask your child about our field work today
- Camping on Mon-Wed next week!

This week theme groups stayed together to finish our class bird study. Each group took their presentation from good, to better, to best and presented the information about their bird to the class. The audience took notes on each of the birds being presented.

Next we made the connection between birds' wings and flight styles to paper planes. Each scientist folded 2 different airplane designs and flew them multiple times, collecting data on how far they flew and how long they stayed in the air.

Our field work at **Hiller Aviation Museum** today built on this as we learned the four forces that act on planes and how wing shapes affect their flight. They got to assemble their own gliders and experimented with three different lengths of wings. They came to the conclusion that the longest wings stayed in the air longest, but the shortest wings were most aerodynamic. We also officially launched our theme- **Inspired by Nature: Biomimicry!**





Week 2 Overview

8/25-8/29

This week theme groups stayed together for an introduction to science class. We read short biographies of a variety of scientists and practiced highlighting information that might tell us what scientists actually do. We worked in small groups to record and share our thoughts with the class.

We practiced being scientists by launching our class bird study. We identified and observed birds in our environment with the help of ornithologist, Carolyn, from the [Santa Clara Valley Bird Alliance](#). Then we researched the class birds through videos, books, and online resources and used science notebooks and note catchers to take notes. We worked in small groups to consolidate and present our information to the class.

We also started Art, Music, PE, Library, Typing, and Coding this week- ask your child how they went!

Talking Points/Reminders:

- EMERGENCY KITS
- Clubs and Helios Hour start next week
- Immersion 9/5 (Hiller Aviation Museum parent volunteer needed!)
- Our first LS Community Meeting was too



[Ravens Class Photo Album](#)



Week 1 Overview

We started the school year strong. We went over class agreements and expectations, made birthday name tags, and book box name tags.

We completed a Map of My Heart, Brain, and Stomach activity (look for it on the hall bulletin board soon).

Students made clay representations of something they did or saw during their summer. They shared this memory with a classmate and wrote a story based on what they shared.

Ling came by and gave us a “Tech Talk” and new Ravens used their computers for the first time. Ling also went over the Tech Agreement. ASK your students the tech expectations.

We are going to have an amazing year. From the teamwork the students displayed when we were playing group games to the writing and drawings the students produced this week, we are off to a GREAT start!

Talking Points/Reminders:

- EMERGENCY KITS
- Explorations start next week
- MAP Testing - Monday/Tuesday
- Math started this week



RAVENS

Week 1 Photos



Week 1 Photos

