

LEAP POST

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From the Editor-in-Chief



As Warren Buffett puts it, “I just hope that [kids] will become more financially savvy and start thinking about certain principles of saving and learning and that sort of thing at an earlier age than perhaps they would otherwise,” we share in the importance of instilling positive financial management concepts to students at an early age.

This past month, we designed 3 modules related to financial literacy for our students in the B1, I2 and A1 levels. The youngest students were introduced to the concept of money and that money does not grow on trees! They were led through the process of earning, spending, saving and sharing money through games, simulation and simple writing exercises. In the I2 class “Meet The Private Banker: How To Manage Money”, students first learnt about preparing budgets and concepts related to compound interest and risk vs return. They then met with Stephanie, a private banker, and learnt about how to make use of different money management options to achieve various financial goals. The advanced students in the A1 level learnt about making investment decisions through qualitative and quantitative analysis, focusing on stock investments. They also met with a financial analyst to reinforce concepts learnt and finally produced a piece of research report on one of the companies in their simulated stock portfolios.

Our remaining classes were devoted to current affairs and general topical knowledge with a slight focus on Hong Kong and China.

The B2 students explored Hong Kong’s history and streetscape to uncover fun and lesser known facts in their module “Hong Kong Heritage”. The final output had the students building itinerary for imaginary friends (whose profiles they had to create) that were coming to visit. This gave the students an opportunity to work the wheels of their imagination and demonstrate what they have learnt in class.

“China at a Glimpse” was the topic for our B3 students who received a crash course on the history, landscape, prominent figures and architecture of China. At the end of the module, the students created mini-brochures of China using the newfound knowledge and fun facts they had learnt in class.

Our I1 students were thrilled this past month to have the chance to meet with guest speaker Josh Begbie from Crossroads, a local NGO



dedicated to distributing goods to people in need and promoting fair trade. As a final project, the I1 students wrote open letters dispensing their knowledge on poverty and fair trade to the public, and urging them to donate to Crossroads.

The I3 students took a more in-depth trip into the history of China in their module “Modern China”, where as the title suggests, they learnt about the famous dynasties, the Cultural Revolution, the Reform and Opening-up and finally, opportunities and challenges faced by present-day China. Students in this class created essays on a chosen opportunity in China and its corresponding challenges and solutions.

For two weeks in December, we held a reflective writing workshop called “As This Chapter Comes to a Close...” which gave students the time and space to look back on the past year and the events and people that have had an impact on them.

Our kindergarten students in the Foundation Level classes soldiered on with learning new topical knowledge, words and phrases related to each topic, and produced short guided writing pieces including letters to Santa, and “If I were a teacher for a day...”

We are also very pleased with the P1 admission results of our K3 students who opted for the local school tracks. ALL of them were admitted into their first choice primary schools, namely DBSPD and DGJS! Congratulations!

"I have loved working alongside LEAP Studio in their work. They are not only committed educators, but also committed Global Citizens. They carefully craft every minute to give the students not only an enjoyable experience, but one that deeply impacts their minds and hearts also. If you want your children to gain more than information, but real learning, I would heartily recommend you try LEAP Studio."

- Josh Begbie, Crossroads

Meet the Private Banker



This module introduced students to the importance of maintaining a spending plan and how different money management options can achieve financial goals. Students learnt about the risk and reward relationship for a variety of assets such as stocks, bonds, cash and more. Subsequently, students reinforced their learning through meeting with a Citibank private banker. The students had an eye-opening session with the professional banker, who shared her background, job responsibilities and did a case study with the class. The guest speaker asked the students to assess her client's risk profile and come up with a suitable investment portfolio by looking at important considerations such as age, job, obligations, lifestyle, investment experience and financial goals. Ultimately, students imagined themselves as private wealth managers and produced a financial proposal for an imaginary client. The writing output exercised the students' imagination, demonstrated their analytical skills and understanding of the newly acquired topical knowledge as they developed an asset allocation for this imaginary client.



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Client #1: Mr. Sam Jackson is a 37 year old detective who made his billion-dollar fortune from his successful mystery ~the case of the credit card theft. Mr. Jackson is a middle manager who is very ambitious and wants to be the youngest head of the detective team. He has been investing in stocks for the last 12 years and has earned quite a lot of money. His company is very secure and profitable, while the management is very stable. He plans to retire when he is 75 years old. He likes to travel once every two years to Texas. He lives in Long Island, New York, with his wife, and his two children, Ethan and Stacey and their dog, Buttercup. His two children are 10 and 13 years old. They both go to private schools and they both hope to attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Mr. Jackson requests to have a fixed income in 10 years' time so that he can use that towards his children's education.



Out of the 5 million that Mr. Jackson gave me, I choose to allocate 30% in utilities bonds because he needs to pay for his children's tuition. Secondly, I choose to allocate 20% in stocks because he is still quite young and his portfolio can be quite aggressive because he has strong earning power. I will put 20% in cash because he needs to support his family (5 members) and pay for their on-going expenses. I will also put 29% in savings for his back-up money when he retires. Lastly, I will put 1% in collectibles i.e. wine, art because he doesn't want his home to be too casual when he invites his friends to come over.

by Hannah Szeto (P4, DGJS)

Client #2: Henry is a 30 year old man who works for a very successful chocolate company called Yummy Chocolate. The company's management is very satisfied with Henry's performance and wants to promote him to be the boss of the company. He gets paid 1,900,000 dollars every month.

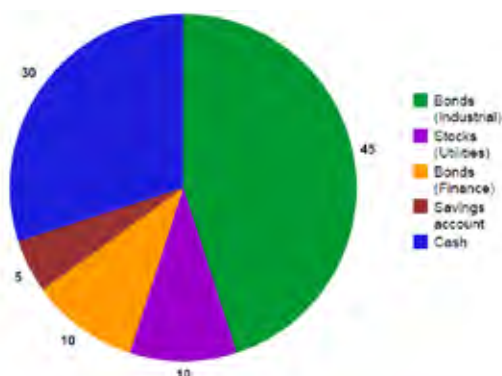
He married 2 wives, who are both injured from a car crash and need special care. They need to be taken care of. Their medical expenditure costs two thousand every month, and they need to be cared for the next two years. He also has 2 sons and 1 daughter who are all 7 years old and go to Leap Studio, the most expensive school in HK.

He hates to spend money and only spends money on the 'needs'. Every month, he spends only 2000 on food, 3000 on gas, water, electricity and other expenses.

Henry has invested in some stocks before and lost quite some money from them. He also has investment experience with finance bonds and he has made a profit from them. He does not have a lot of investment experience.

His investment goal is to earn enough to buy a Picasso painting in 2 years and a Ferrari in 7 years. He also hopes to have enough money to support his family with the best standard of living.

Out of the ten million dollars he gives me, I will put 45% in industrial bonds because Henry thinks that bonds are more profitable and stable.



I will choose two very successful companies to ensure that he gets his money back: Virgin Airlines and Li and Fung Trading Company. For finance bonds, I will invest 10% in HSBC bank because it is quite trustworthy. I am also going to put 10% in utility stocks because Henry is not very sure about stocks I will select the utility sector because it is the safest of all the sectors. I will put a small amount in HK Electric. I am going to put 5% in his HSBC savings account. He is not old so he can take risks and put less in savings. If he is only 30 years old, he can still work for at least 30 more years so if he loses money he can still earn it back. Henry still has a few more years before he reaches the peak of financial life. I will put the remaining 30% in cash because he has quite a lot of expenses even without his wants.

by Max Lau (P5, Renaissance College)

Client #3: Jocelyn Landes is a 25 year old American singer who sings country and pop music. Since she is a singer, she has a risky job because there are people who does not like country or pop music, so therefore wouldn't like to go to her concerts, listen to her CDs, etc. Her career is on the rise, since she is getting more and more popular each week. She lives in Hong Kong with her husband, parents, and three kids, Michelle, Michael, and Wai Ling. They are 14, 5, and 10 respectively. They all go to an international school in Shek Mun and Jocelyn has to pay about 7,000 a month for tuition fees. Jocelyn Landes wants to have a stable income and also be able to support her family.

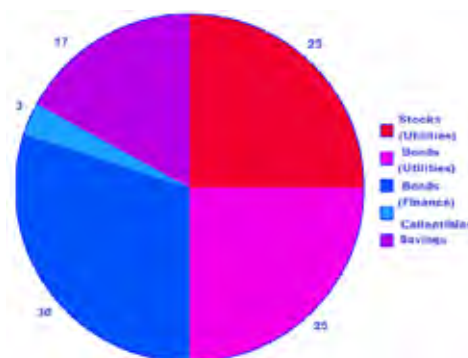
Because she is 25, she will have more energy and be able to earn more money than her 55 year old dad, who is planning to retire when he is about 60-68. She earns about 3,000 a day, earning enough to pay for her children's tuition fees and still have a lot of money to spend. She has also just bought a house, and needs to spend about 5,000 a month on it. Jocelyn usually saves about 1,000 to 3,000 a month, in case she needs to use it for something important.

Her spending habits are very extravagant, spending about 2,000 on shopping for, beauty products, electronics, and house cleaning tools. She will also take her children to the mall, buying them small gifts every time.

She has been investing in both stocks and bonds for three years and has quite a bit of experience. She is a smart investor, buying only the really good stocks. She has made quite a lot of money by investing.

She has given me 1,000,000 and wants to save up 800,000 for tuition fees by the time Michelle goes to college in four years.

I will put 55% of her money in bonds, since that has a fixed payment she can use that towards her children's tuition. Then I will put 25% in stocks, in which you can lose money, but can possibly have higher rewards than bonds. Lastly, I will put 17% in savings so that money will be a back up. The last 3% will be invested in collectibles, because she is still young, she has enough earning power to make up for the money she might lose.



by Faith Yuen (G5, ICS)



by Martin Choi (G6, ISF)

Client #4: My client is Alex Plotter, a really wealthy guy from the United States. Alex is at the peak of his financial life, his earning power is pretty high because he is 40 years old and he is the C.E.O. of a huge computer manufacturing factory. He earns HK\$5 million a year and if he does well, he gets an extra year-end bonus of HK\$2 million. His job is safe because his boss is really happy with his work. He has a wife and one kid. He needs to support his kid who is 10 years old. Alex's son loves technology so his room is full of expensive technology stuff, like all the Apple and HP products. His wife doesn't work, but she only uses money if she needs them for clothes and more. He doesn't need to pay any loans and he has a saving account of \$10 million with Hang Seng Bank. His spending habits are geared towards leisurely activities such as playing golf once every week and reading lots of books. He had invested before but it didn't work out the way he wanted and he lost a lot of money in property stocks. He lost most of the money in stocks and isn't a good investor. His investment budget is \$1 billion and he hopes he won't lose any money this time.

I will invest 40% in bonds from the industrial & manufacturing sector and I will use a conservative strategy because his son is 10 years old and he has to support him for 10 more years before he graduates from college. I will put 20% on collectibles since he has a really stable job and makes a lot of money so he can afford to take more risk. I will allocate 20% in cash as well, because he can access it in case of emergencies. Lastly, I will put 10% in utility stocks as he was scarred from past experiences so I will make it less risky so he will have steadier income.



Meet Crossroads

The kids in our Meet Crossroads class had the privilege to learn about poverty and meet with a speaker, Josh Begbie, from a local organization called Crossroads that helps charities and people in need all over the world. After learning about the production process of different everyday items such as coffee and cocoa and being introduced to Fair Trade, students were asked to use the knowledge they acquired in class and from the guest speaker to write an open letter informing the reader about the poverty situation in the world right now and urging him or her to donate to Crossroads.

Dear Readers:

Good Morning! How are you? Hope you are having a good day!

My name is Andre Ki, a G4 boy from DBSPD. The day before was brilliant. One day, when I was having a lesson about poverty and basic needs for cocoa, farmers, I realized that they are very poor. We are much luckier than them. Luckily, there's a global charity named Crossroads. They don't send money to the poor people, they send basic needs like clothes, shoes, books, stationery, etc. You know, we can help. We can give some things we don't use and donate them to Crossroads! We can help some low-income people in poor countries, let's do it!

Have you ever tried being poor? I guess not. I'll explain what is poverty. You should listen to me because I have had the experience of meeting a worker from Crossroads – Josh Begbie. Poverty is a situation that the poor people are in. You know, some people use less than \$10 a day! It's a big difference from us! I'll tell you some SHOCKING facts about Poverty. Poverty can kill people. Every 5 seconds a child dies from hunger. Poor people also need to sleep on the street because they don't have houses and children need to help their parents on the farm and cannot go to school. The most shocking fact is that they don't even have the 5 basic needs! More than a million people have no shelter. The worst thing is that if you have a serious disease, your family won't have enough money for you to see the doctor so you will die. Are these facts scary? We should help people that need our help.

There is also a charity called Fair Trade. I'll tell you a story. There is a farmer who lives in Mali. He is a cocoa farmer. His life is extremely difficult and his is very poor. He has no money to pay for school fees for his children or to buy food. Once he knew Fair Trade and joined it, he had double the price of his salary and had money to let his next generation go to school. Do you want to know more about Fair Trade? I'll tell you more. Fair Trade is a charity and it helps farmers earn more money. Food that is sold under Fair Trade is more expensive because Fair Trade needs to give money to farmers and they need to earn money too! This is why they need to make the prices of food more expensive. Even though it is more expensive, we should also buy it because we can help poor people by buying these things. Fair Trade also changes many people's lives! So, what are you waiting for? Go to buy Fair Trade stuff!

I met a guy called Josh Begbie, he works at Crossroads for free. Every worker at Crossroads is working for free. You must ask me how does he pay his bills and how can he survive if he has no salary? He told me that when he was in university, his friends thought his work was very helpful and they got their money and gave it to Josh. The most striking thing I learnt from the lesson is the story about how the community came together to help Crossroads grow. Josh says that there was a man and a woman that started the organization in 1995. Some people that needed help called Crossroads. Crossroads first said they wouldn't send any boxes, they just could write newspaper articles or come up with a budget for the charity. But after pleading with them, Crossroads decided to help out. They first sent 19 boxes, 72 boxes, then 136 boxes and finally, 248 boxes to different people in the world! They thought it was too much for them to do, so they told a few people from Australia that they needed more help, so many people went to Crossroads to work for them. I felt very happy after hearing Josh's stories because I learnt many things about Crossroads. I hope I can meet him again.

You should buy Fair Trade food to help the poor. You should know one more important thing about Crossroads. It is that they don't send money to people. They just send things like chairs, tables, stationery, lights, etc. So can you imagine how many things Crossroads needs? We should donate things to them that we don't need or even some things that are broken. Crossroads will fix them back and renew them. So, what are you waiting for? Get all of your stuff and help Crossroads!

Bye! See you later!

From,

Andre Ki (G4, DBSPD)



Dear All,

Greetings!

I am called Janson Chu. I am 9 years old and I study at DBSPD. I am writing to you because I want to request for you to donate things to help Crossroad help the people living in poverty. Crossroads is a charity in Hong Kong that gives thing to people that are living in poverty. Crossroads also gives things to other charities. Crossroads helped people in a flood one time in 1995 in China. Crossroads sent 248 boxes of stuff that people donated to help the victims of the flood. You can help by donating things to Crossroads and you can improve the living standards of poor people.

Poverty is a vicious cycle and a lack of the 5 basic needs. The 5 basic needs are food and water, clothing, shelter, education and medicine. Do you know that every 5 seconds a child dies from hunger? There are 6.8 billion people in the world right now; do you know how many people live on less than \$8 a day? I know the answer: 1 billion people. That is close to China's 1.3 billion population! Every year, 54 million people die and 1/3 of the total deaths are poverty-related! The 5 poorest regions in the world right now are West Africa, East Africa, Latin America and South and East Asia. In places like Ghana, the children even need to help their parents on the farm and don't get the opportunity to go to school!

Imagine, a coca farmer works under the sun for eight hours a day but his salary is very low so he may not have enough money to let his children go to school. The farmers' lives are very bad. Every day they need to go to the farm and do manual labour work on the farm. They also always need to think about the five basic needs for their families but because their salaries are so small, they cannot afford to buy all of them. Do you know that the farmer only gets \$1 for a cocoa bean? He may not have enough money to support his family. And do you know there is something called Fair Trade that can support him? Fair Trade is an organization that can give the farmers a higher price for their products and they make sure that the plantation owners will give them the right amount of money.

Do you know I met a worker from Crossroads? His name is Josh Begbie and he is in charge of all the projects that Fair Trade does with Crossroads. The most striking thing that I learnt when I met Josh Begbie was during a simulation where I found out that out of \$25 the farmer only gets \$0.50!!! \$25 is the price of a bunch of bananas at the supermarket. The farmer gets that little because the money still needs to be divided among 5 people: the farmer, the plantation owner, importer, shipper and the retailer.

Before I go, I want to tell you that the people living in poverty have shorter lives so we need to help the,. The most important thing that you need to know about Crossroads is that they only donate things to Crossroads and help the people living in poverty.

Best Wishes,

Janson Chu (G4, DBSPD)



Dear People of Hong Kong,

Hello! How are you getting on?

My name is Anthony. I am studying in P5 and I learnt about poverty at Leap Studio. I am writing this letter to let you know more about Crossroads. Crossroads is a charity that helps poor people. In the past, Crossroads just wrote budgets or newspaper articles. One day, there was a flood in China, Crossroads just said "I will help you to write budgets or newspapers articles." But the people in China said, "No! We need things like clothes, blankets or other things!" So that is why nowadays, Crossroads sends things to poor people instead of writing budgets or newspaper articles. People of Hong Kong, you can also send things to poor people. You can help a lot of people!

Did you know that every 5 seconds a child dies from hunger? 1 billion people in the world live on less than \$8 every day. Every year, 54 million people die and 1/3 of the deaths happened because of poverty. Also, the poorest regions in the world are West and East Africa, Latin America and South and East Asia. Some basic things everyone needs are clothing, food and water, shelter, education and medicine. Poverty is the lack of basic needs and the inability to afford them. If the poor people lack basic needs, they will die of cold, hunger, sickness and illnesses.

Farmers living in poverty have very poor lives. They lack a lot of things like basic needs and money. Their children lack education, food and water, clothing, shelter, vaccination and medicine. The farmers' boss, the plantation owner, gives the farmers little money for the great jobs they are doing. The farmers don't have enough money to support themselves and their families because the money is not enough. But if they join Fair Trade, Fair Trade can help them have access to the things they lack. Fair Trade helps the farmers to earn enough money. They help the farmers to get basic needs and enough money to support the families and themselves.

I met a man called Josh Begbie, he promotes Crossroads and he donates things to poor people. He told me about how poor banana farmers just get \$0.50 out of \$25 (which is the price of a bunch of bananas) but the retailers get \$12 out of the \$25! If it was equally divided then each person should get \$5 out of the \$25. I felt very sorry for the poor people because they have lesser things than us.

The last thing I want to tell you about poverty is that it is the lack of basic needs and the inability to afford them. The most important thing about Crossroads is that you don't need to be rich to donate to Crossroads and help a lot of people!

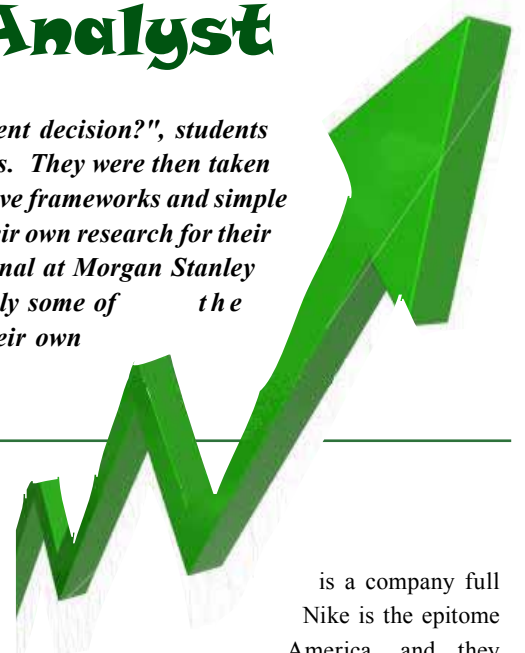
Thank you for your help!

From,

Anthony Leung (G5, Creative Primary School)

Meet the Financial Analyst

In this module "Meet the Financial Analyst: How to make sound investment decision?", students learnt about different financing options for companies with a focus on stocks. They were then taken through case studies understanding how to analyze companies using qualitative frameworks and simple quantitative tools. Using this knowledge, they then picked stocks based on their own research for their virtual portfolios. Finally they met with Sonia Yu, an investment professional at Morgan Stanley Special Situation Group, to learn first hand about her role and how to apply some of the skills learnt in her job. As the written output, students had to produce their own research reports on one of the companies in their virtual portfolios.



Stock Analysis: NIKE (Ticker: NKE)

Nike - victor; the ancient Greek goddess of victory. As the name suggests, Nike is a company full of valor and victory. From their sporting goods, to the athletes they sponsor, Nike is the epitome of sporting perfection. The company was founded in 1964 in a small town in America, and they never stopped there, raising the bar and standard for the sporting industry to become one of the most renowned industries in the world. The main focus of the company is the goods that they sell, ranging from high quality apparel to other sporting items. Their goal: To fulfill the need of all athletes.

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Innovation. Diversity. Perfection. These three words define what Nike is really about.

Innovation. Their creativity reaches new heights as their designs not only suit the athletes they sponsor well, but they also suit users to a global level. Their main focus is their footwear, and their hard work is evident throughout, focusing on lightness, comfort, and performance. The Nike Zoom Victory, released in 2008, is the lightest sport shoe out there today. The LeBron 8s, their new shoe for the King himself was reviewed to be one of the most comfortable shoes out there, yet it doesn't stop there. The players and athletes that they sponsor are of the utmost quality and as Michael Jordan said, "It's all in the shoes".



Diversity. The company, now worth \$8.67 billion, sells their products worldwide, in over 170 countries. In the past four years, Nike has been putting their full attention on their international growth, and their revenue distribution for international users has grown 4% from 2006 to 2010, and their total revenue five year Compound Annual Growth

Rate (CAGR) was 7%. They reached out worldwide, especially in China, where the population is still booming every year. Yet big countries such as the States and China aren't their only focus. They successful launched the Lace Up, Save Lives campaign, as they outreached to Africa to help in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Perfection. The quality that Nike has to offer is tremendous. They put their complete faith in their athletes, picking those who have achieved the impossible in their careers. All of their shoes, their brands, are primarily focused on the people they sponsor, and they never disappoint. Whenever they come up with a new brand, they always first ask their athletes, "How do you want these products to reflect with your play?" Everything correlates in the company and everything is created with perfection.

"Impossible is nothing". With potential industry contenders like Adidas in the opening, Nike is never safe. However, they thrive on this competition, outperforming their rivals, taking the title of the top company in the sporting industry today.

My suggestion: BUY. Just do it.

by Analyst Cameron Zeluck (Year 10, CIS)

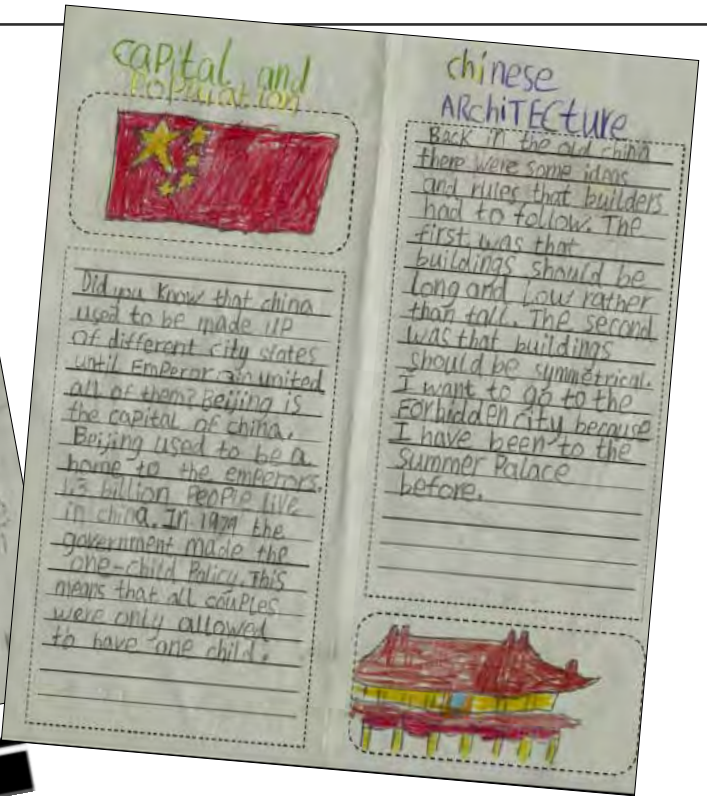


China at a Glimpse

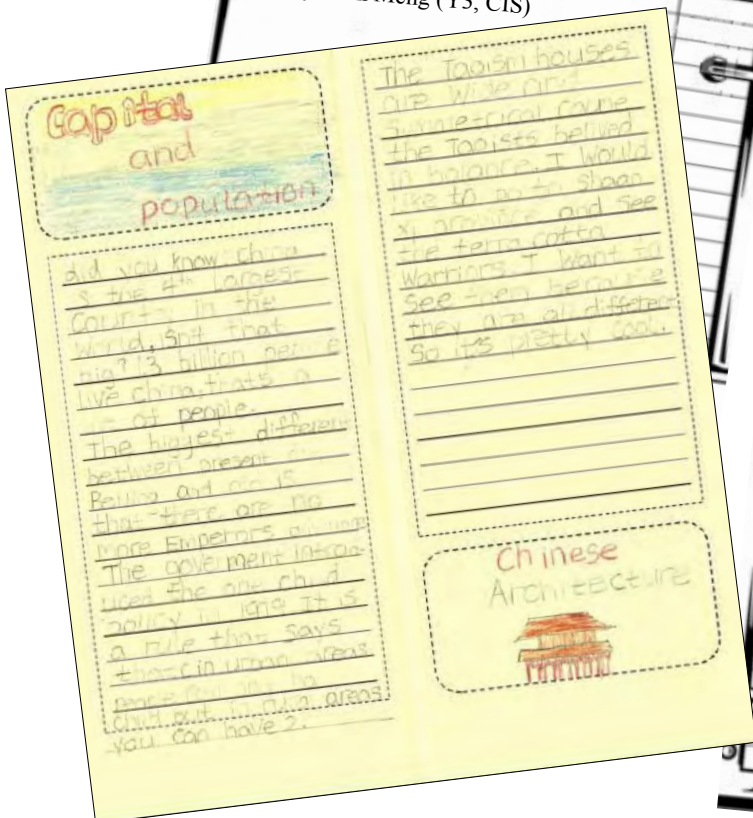
In the last six weeks, students in this module were given a brief overview of China. The topics covered in class included: the capital, the landscape, the history, the architecture and famous people from China. At the end of the module, the students were instructed to write a script on two aspects of China: the capital and population and the distinct architecture. After writing their scripts, the kids transferred relevant parts to a mini-brochure that they created in class.



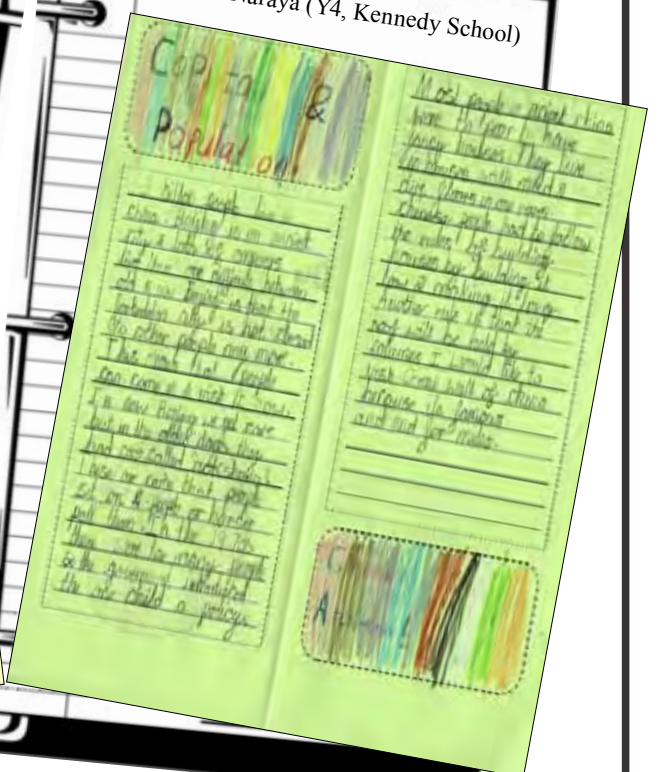
by John Zhang (Y3, CIS)



by Sean Meng (Y3, CIS)

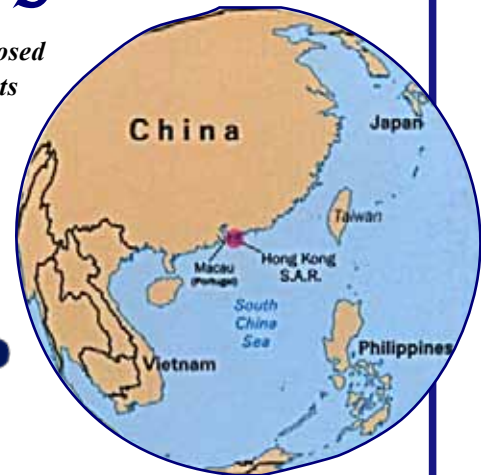


by Anika Naraya (Y4, Kennedy School)



"Hong Kong Heritage: How well do I know my city?"

In this module, students learnt about the brief history of Hong Kong and were exposed to all the districts and regions of our city. We introduced students to different districts through exploring their history, landmarks and legends, streetscape, physical features, fun facts and unique characteristics of the region and its residents. As a final writing output, students were asked to build an itinerary for a visiting friend, where they exercised their imagination by creating a profile for the visiting friend. The writing assignment also reinforced their newly acquired knowledge and developed writing skills as they identified different locations and landmarks to bring this friend to.



By Kathy Fong (P2, SIS)

My friend Paige Wei is coming from Hollywood on my birthday for a sleepover! She is very kind and funny. Paige is my best friend because she has a lot of pets at her home and she is inviting me to Hollywood to play with her pets and for a sleepover. She is eleven years old. Paige had been to Hong Kong five times. She will be coming next year.

Paige's favourite hobbies are tennis, basketball, golf and ice-skating. She enjoys eating French fries, ice-cream, fruit punch and hot chocolate. She also likes playing Pokémon cards and figures. Paige likes Science class in school because she can learn about animals.

I want to tell Paige what I learned about HK. The Wong Tai Sin Temple is named after Wong Chuping. There are people in Hong Kong who live in cage homes because they are poor. The lower bunk is more expensive than higher bunk because in the lower bunk, people can stand up but the people in the upper bunk can hardly stand.

One the first day, I want to bring Paige to The Lion's Nature Education Center because she likes nature. For lunch, we will take the bus to Tai Lai Chung then we take a cable car ride to Lantau Island to see the Giant Buddha. Afterwards, we will visit Disneyland and eat lunch. At night, we will go back to Sai Kung to sleep in my new home because we are very tired.

The second morning, we will go to Kowloon to see the Wai Tai Sin Temple and shake the fortune sticks to see if our wishes will come true. We will then go to Shum Shui Po and see the people who live there and meet them. I want to tell Paige that Shum Shui Po is the poorest district in Hong Kong. Afterwards, we will go to the Peninsula Hotel to eat dinner. It is the oldest hotel and we will eat Chinese food like dumplings. I hope she will like the things I show her because I know that she really like seeing and learning new things.



By Tyler Weisberg (P2, Kiangsu & Chekiang)

My friend is Mario. He comes from Japan. My friend is eight years old. He is my good friend because he was my first friend that I met. He has never visited Hong Kong before. He likes to play wii, soccer, baseball, swimming and basketball. My friend enjoys playing wii, eating pepper, ketchup and salt.

I will bring him to IRC. When Mario arrives, I will tell him four fun facts. First, the population of Hong Kong is seven million. Next, the highest point of Hong Kong is Tai Mo Shan. After is the tallest skyscraper is ICC. Lastly, I will tell him in 1839, Britain traded with China a dangerous drug called opium. The China government realized this drug was hurting its society and asked Commissioner Lin Zexu to stop the trade. The Britain refused and a war broke out known as The Opium War.

On day one, I will take Mario to Repulse Bay because I can bring him and play on the beach. I will teach him that the Bay got its name because in 1841, pirates were repulsed by the Britain. In the afternoon, we will take the peak tram to go to the peak. We will have some ice cream and buy some comics. At night, we will go to Tai Koo Shing and play at the game shop. We will eat dinner at the Peking duck place.

On day two, I will bring Mario to ice-skating lessons at AMC. Next, I will walk Jenny the dog to the park. We will have lunch at Pizza Express. After lunch, we will take a nap at home. At 6:00pm we will play some toy cars. We will have at home. At night, we will watch the Super Mario movie.

By Lucas Zhang (P2, Kiangsu & Chekiang)



My best friend is Lincoln Yip. He is from Canada. He is seven years old and he is my classmate. He is such a good friend because he teaches me how to win Super Mario Brothers Wii game that's way I'll always invite him to my birthday. His hobby is DS Slug Game. He doesn't like to do homework. Before he was in Hong Kong, but now he lives in Canada. I wish he could move back after one year. When he's here in Hong Kong, I'll send him an email to let him come to my house to play. I think he would like it. When Lincoln comes back, I'll tell him the highest skyscraper in Hong Kong is ICC. I'll also tell him in 1513, the first European visitor Jorge Alvarez came to Hong Kong from Portugal.



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On day one in the morning, I will take Lincoln Yip to Ocean Park because want to take him to the cable car to go to the other side of Ocean Park to play the games. After that, I'll bring him to the peak for ice-cream. Then, I'll bring him to my home to Deep Water Bay to eat lunch. After that, he'll stay at my home to play four hours of Wii. At night, I'll bring him to Tai Hang to go for a walk and eat the best hot pot in the whole world. Day two in the morning, I'll bring him to Aberdeen to play soccer and the pitch is very big, that's why I want to bring him there. In the afternoon, I'll bring him to Shek O to go hiking because I want to show him how many dandelions are there. I know he would say "Wow! I have never seen so many dandelions before!" At night, I'll bring him to Victoria Peak garden to pick strawberries until it is very late.



By Jasmine Tam (P2, SIS)

My friend is Barack Obama. He was born in USA, he is 44 years old now. He is a very good friend because he is always willing to help more & more people and when he is around, it is always very peaceful. He has been in HK for only once. He is coming over to my house next year. His hobbies are arts, sports and helping people. Barack enjoys spending time with his wife & his children. When he doesn't do that, he would either swim or watch Rugby 7. When he is in HK, I am going to teach him two things about HK. The first thing is in 1839, Britain traded China a dangerous drug called opium. The China government realized this drug was hurting its society and asked Commissioner Lin Zexu to stop the trade. The Britain refused and a war broke out, known as "The Opium War". The second thing I'm going to tell him is, China lost the war and had to hand over Hong Kong to Britain for 99 years. In 1997, Britain passed back Hong Kong to China.



On day one, I will take Barack Obama to Ocean Park and in the afternoon he will come over to my house to play. When he comes over, we will eat our lunch and play outside for a while. Afterwards, I will tell him the surprise. He will be very, very happy and excited when he hears this because he'd never gone to Ocean Park before. We will skip to the bus we are taking to Ocean Park. When we arrive, Barack will gasp with astonishment as he had never gone to such a beautiful place before! At first, we will go to a dolphin show at 2:30. Next, we will watch an animal show at 3:00. After that miraculous show, we will take a ride on the roller coaster at 4:30. Finally, we will go to the circus. Barack will be amazed by how flexible people are. We will then go home to eat dinner after having so much fun. When we head home, Barack will use the phone to call his parents and ask if he could sleepover in my house. His parents will say yes and Barack will be so excited that he will start jumping up and down! The next morning, he will tell me that he has slept very well the night before. At 10:00, I'm going to send him to the airport and I'm going to miss him terribly. Barack will also miss me terribly too. He will promise to come again next year.

By Gillian Cheng (G3, Kau Yan)



My cousin is Julia Cheng. My cousin is from Los Angeles. She is 11 years old. She is my good cousin because we like teasing the boys. She hasn't been to HK before. She is coming because she wants to play with me.



She likes Hello Kitty. She loves folding things, seeing flowers, eating hamburgers and playing tag. I will take her to a beautiful garden, eat McDonalds, the places that teach you how to fold, go to a mall to shop for Hello Kitty things and take her to the Aberdeen Marina Club (AMC) to play. I will share with her some fun facts about Hong Kong. The first is that IC is the tallest building in Hong Kong and the second is that Tai Mo Shan is the highest point in Hong Kong.

On the first day, I'll take Julia to a Japanese place to eat lunch at 12:30pm. The place is called "Po Tin". Then, I'll take her to Ngong Ping 360 to see the mountains and see the Big Buddha because she wants to see how big it is. Then, we'll take the Disney Resort line to go to Disneyland to play. When we finish playing at Disneyland we will eat there as well. Then, we will go back home.

On the second day, we will go to Ocean Park to play and eat there for lunch. Then, we'll go to Wong Tai Sin Temple to make wishes. After that, we'll go to Sha Tin to ride bikes. For dinner, we'll eat hot pot at my home and play a bit of Wii and then we'll go to sleep together. I think we'll have two happy, wonderful, great days.

By Jane Mak (P2, SIS)

My friend's name is Jason Chan. He is from Singapore and he is seven years old. He is my good friend because he is very friendly to me, playful and he runs very fast. He hasn't been to Hong Kong before. Tomorrow, Jason will come to Hong Kong!

His hobbies are playing Bey Blades and going to Disneyland with me. Jason and I like to eat McDonalds so I will take him anywhere to find McDonalds. He likes to go to Disneyland to ride on Space Mountain so I will take him there.

The two things that I will share with Jason are that ICC is the tallest building in Hong Kong and that in 1997 Britain passed Hong Kong back to China after winning it in the Opium War.

On the first day, I will take Jason to Disneyland to ride on Space Mountain because he likes it and then I will take him to Ocean Park to play and then eat lunch with him because he wants to play and eat their food. Afterwards, I will take him to see the "Crouching Lion" Rock and the "Woman Carrying a Baby" Rock and we will walk up the hill because Jason wants to have some adventures. We will go to Sai Kung to eat seafood because he wants to know how yummy it is! Before going back home, I will take him to ride a tram to the Peak and go to the wax museum with him. After, that, we will go to the shopping mall and buy Bey Blades for ourselves.

On the next day, I will take Jason to Wong Tai Sin Temple and look at the buildings and then we will go to the cage homes in Sham Shui Po. Next, we will go to eat McDonald's for lunch. We will go to the pet stores in Causeway Bay and see the dogs because he wants to have a pet dog. For dinner, I will take him for pizza at Pizza Hut. At last, before going back home, we will ride the cable car up to the Big Buddha in Lantau.

By Jay Wong (G3, Canadian International School)

Next year, my best friend from Canada is coming to visit and his name is Jamescookbakefriedudeguyfok. My friend is 7 years old. I am such a good friend with him because we met in Canada and we became friends by playing together a lot. I have not seen him for 3 years and I am very excited about his visit. He is a very friendly boy and he likes to eat chocolate and cookies. His hobbies are soccer, tennis, hockey, baseball, fishing and cricket. I can't wait to play games with him. I am going to teach him two interesting things about Hong Kong. First, Hong Kong had to be handed to Britain because China lost the Opium War. Second, Hong Kong has 8,000 skyscrapers, the highest number in the world. James has black hair, a tanned face, a long thumb and lots of hair. He is a thin boy and is very athletic.

On the day when my friend from Canada arrives, I will take him to Stanley to go shopping for sunglasses and t-shirt and some boxers (underwear). At 10:20am, I will take him to dim sum at Causeway Bay. I will order him cha siu bao and tea. At 11: 50am, Jamescookbakefriedudeguyfok and I will go to the Hong Kong market to buy food and drink to cook at night. At 12:10pm, we will go home to play video games and eat snacks and read books then take a rest. At 2:40pm, I will take him to the Hong Kong stadium to play soccer and fun games on the field. At 4:50pm, I will take him to Chek Lap Kok to see the human fossils because archaeologists found fossils of people there from 39,000 years ago. Then at 6:20pm, we will go to Kowloon to ice-skate at ICC, the tallest building in Hong Kong. I will go there by a taxi. Then at 8:10, we will go to a place in Stanley to go to see a place pirates use to hide and the captains name was Cheung Po Tsai. I will make sure that Jamescookbakefriedudeguyfok has a good time in Hong Kong.



by Mavis Fu (P2, SIS)

My friend is Mrs Gultiano. My friend is from England. She is 34 years old. She is such a good friend because she plays with me. My friend hasn't been to Hong Kong. She is coming at Christmas break. Mrs Gultiano's hobbies are hockey and basketball. My friend enjoys eating chocolate and chewing gum. My friend likes playing cat and mouse. When she comes I will teach her two things. The first thing I am going to tell her that the highest point of Hong Kong is Tai Mo Shan. The second thing I am going to tell her is that in 1839, Britain traded China a dangerous drug called opium.



On day one, I will take her to Tuen Mun. I will teach her that in Tuen Mun the residents are second least educated. In the afternoon, I will bring my friend to Tsuen Wan, I will tell my friend one fun fact about the residents of Tsuen wan is that they enjoy highest income. In the afternoon, I will bring her to Yuen long. I will teach her that the population of Yuen long is the youngest in Hong Kong but they also protect the villagers from the thieves.

On day two, I will bring her to New Territories West. In the morning I will bring her to Tsuen wan. I will teach her that one fun fact about the residents of Tsuen wan is they enjoy highest income. In the afternoon, I will bring her to Kwai Tsing. I will teach her that Kwai Tsing used to be a part of Tsuen Wan before it became its own district. At night, I will bring her to Sai Kung to eat sea food and look at the nice view of Hong Kong harbour.



Modern China

Students in this class learnt a brief history of China from its famous dynasties, Cultural Revolution and Reform and Opening-up all the way up to modern day. The focus of the module was on China in 2010: its challenges, opportunities and solutions. As a final project, students had to produce a piece of writing on a chosen opportunity and its corresponding challenges and solutions.

China, located in East Asia, is the most populous country in the world with more than 1.3 billion people – around 20% of the Earth's population. China has a highly diverse geography; with hills, plains, and river deltas in the east; deserts, high plateaus, and mountains in the west. Climate in China varies, ranging from tropical in the south to subarctic in northeastern China. The geography has caused an uneven population distribution; 94 % of the people in China live in the eastern part of the country. The population grows by an estimated 10 million Chinese each year. China has one of the world's longest continuous civilizations; for more than 40 centuries its people created a culture with strong philosophies, traditions, and values.

China has experienced quite a lot of opportunities in its past years; they include economic growth, foreign investments, industrialization and international profile. Foreign investments are one of the biggest opportunities that China has encountered as direct foreign investments have increased rapidly as the years pass by. It increased from U.S\$20 million in 1983 to almost US\$70 million in 2009. Foreign investments such as foreign factories being built in China have made people receive income in foreign currencies rather than their local currency. This has played a major role to China's GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growth. This has also multiplied the amount of jobs available in China greatly as factories can employ more people to work in comparison to a school or an office.

Even though foreign investments have helped China improve, it has also made China face a lot more problems. One of the major problems that foreign investments have led to is environmental degradation, which includes air pollution, deforestation and desertification. According to the World Bank, 16 of the world's top 20 cities with the worst air can be found in China, including Beijing and Shenzhen. This is the reason why only 1% of China's 560 million city dwellers breathe safe air. Factories, mining and vehicles produce harmful gases like nitrogen oxide that pollute our air and make the air bad for people to inhale. Deforestation is the process of clearing forests by logging and burning. This has caused China to lose half of its forests in some areas within 2 decades. Deforestation is done as wood is used to make wooden products and more and more land is needed for new buildings. Desertification happens when healthy land goes bad and turns into deserts where crops and plants cannot grow and sandstorms happen frequently. Now, 28% of China's land has become desert and this desert is getting larger at a faster pace every year.

China has been figuring out ways to solve these problems in the past years and one of their solutions is by using renewable energy, especially focusing on wind energy as China has become the world's largest maker of wind turbines and its production is expected to expand even more in the coming years. China has also leapfrogged other countries as the world's largest manufacturer of solar panels. This has caused other countries to develop their own renewable energy industries. Many believe China to prevail in the energy-technology race. According to the government-backed Chinese Renewable Energy Industries Association, Renewable energy industries have rapidly increased the amount of jobs available, reaching 1.12 million in 2008 and climbing by 100,000 a year. China expects for wind, solar and biomass energy to represent 8% of its electricity by 2020; but coal will still represent two-thirds of the electricity, nuclear and hydropower representing most of the rest.



I think that China is currently doing a great job at trying to solve its air pollution problem so that its citizens can have safer air to breathe. China's solutions help prevent global warming as well. What China is doing has also affected the way other countries perceive China and has also led other countries improving their progress in producing renewable energy. I hope that China will allow more people to use renewable energy so that everyone will be able to breathe safer air.

By Vicky Fong (P6, SIS)

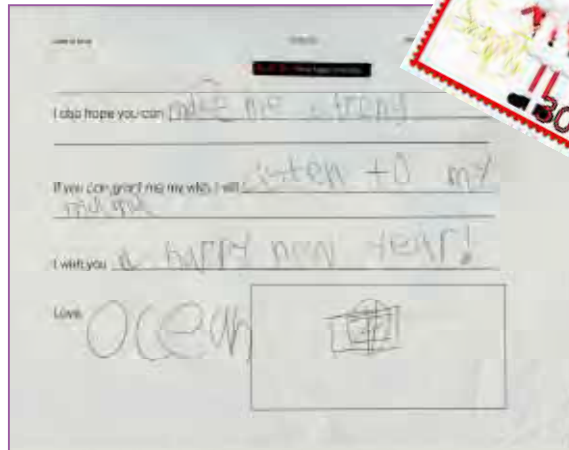
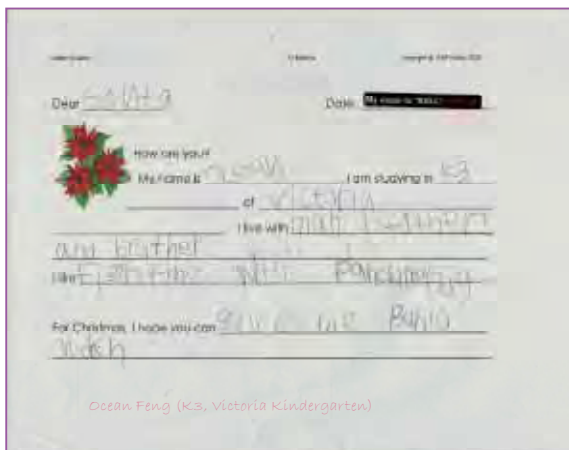
Kindergarten Modules

We are very pleased to share with you that ALL of our K3 students who opted for the local school tracks this year were admitted to their first choice primary schools - DGJS and DBSPD. Congratulations to Audrey, Querida, Abraham and Ocean on their stellar results!

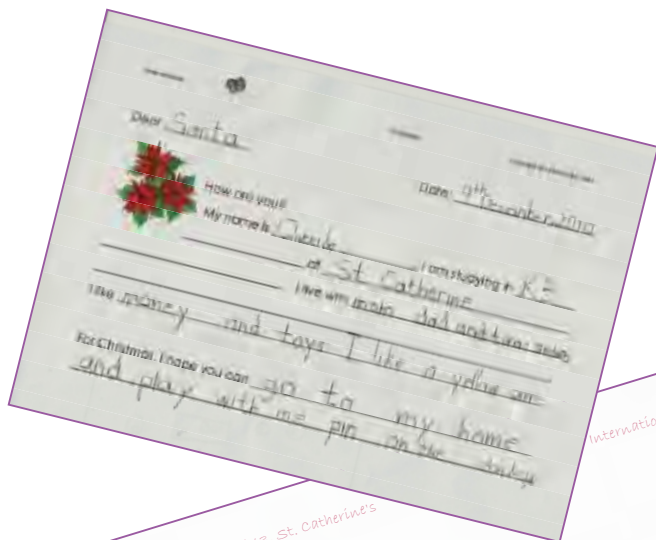
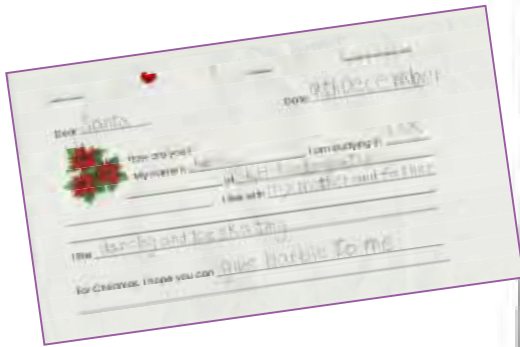
IF I WERE A TEACHER FOR A DAY:



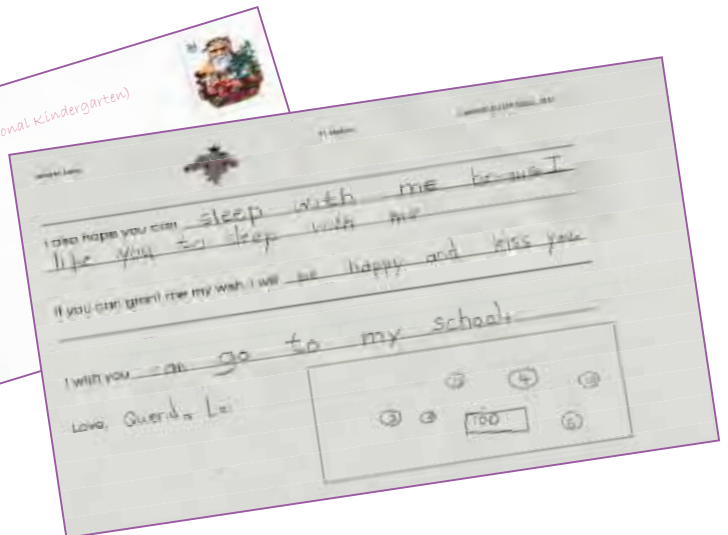
LETTER TO SANTA:



LETTER TO SANTA:



International Kindergarten



Querida Lai (K3, St. Catherine's)

Reflective Writing

For two weeks in the month of December, LEAP ran a reflective writing workshop that gave students the opportunity to reflect on the past year and hone their writing skills. "My Life in Words", the beginner level, saw students producing pieces on important people in their lives and special memories they had with their chosen subjects. The intermediate level students turned real life into fiction in the "Adventures in 2010" workshop where they produced action-packed short stories. "This is Me Now... and Later" had the advanced level students creating essays on significant events in the past year that have shaped them into who they are today. Have fun reading what our creative minds at LEAP have written.

My Life in Words

I am writing about my little brother. He is very funny. He is from Hong Kong and I met him when I stepped into the hospital room where my mom was staying after giving birth. I saw him sleeping with my mom and I was surprised! Now he is four and a half. His skin is peach-colored. His face is round and chubby. He looks like a man. He is taller than a computer but shorter than a chair on the fourth floor at Leap Studio. He is annoying because whenever I say "You're so annoying" to him, he will say, "You're so annoying yourself!" He is funny because I videotaped him in the bath. He is polite because he always says "please" and "thank you" (in the house). My family likes him because he is good at making friends. He is important to me because he is my brother.

My favorite memory is playing computer with my brother because computer is fun! I was playing Club Penguin and he was watching me. If I had lots of money, I would buy him a DS because he likes to play DS.

by John Zhang (Y3, CIS)



It was Anakin Skywalker and Obi Wan. I thought they were good guys, but why were they fighting? My friend came over and said, "Have you watched Episode 3..." He kept blabbering on about the show. I already knew what had happened. Anakin and Obi Wan fought each other and then chased each other up into the sky. The cops arrived just then and everyone started telling them about what had happened. But after the cops left, the sky became filled with spaceships and the right side was the good side and the left was the bad guys. I could see Darth Maul through the window of one of the spaceships. Everyone was scared, the spaceship started to shoot lasers so the good side teleported all the humans (us) to their spaceship. We were really frightened but the reporters and their cameramen were not scared. They even took pictures of the bad guys and interviewed them. But then the Jedis said, "We are working and you are in danger so please do not disturb us because this is a matter of life and death." The spaceship teleported to another planet but the bad guys tracked us down and kept pursuing us. Our ship stopped and I didn't know why. All of a sudden, all of our ships surrounded the bad guy's one ship.

We had a great victory, but we didn't know what to do because we were in outer space so the Jedis teleported us back home where we thought everything was over. Unfortunately, the rest of the bad guys were still on earth and when we saw them there was chaos but I didn't care. I just took out my iPhone, plugged in my headphones and walked back home.

by Martin Choi (G6, ISF)

My Life in Words

I am writing about my little brother. He is from Hong Kong (China). I met this little creature in the hospital when he was born. He just turned 4 on December 8th. Even though he is 4 years old he looks like he is 3. His skin is peach. His face is round and oval-shaped. His face is as round as an orange, his small eyes are as small as a grape, his nose is very flat and he is very clean because he uses too much soap and shampoo. He is annoying because he takes my toys. He is very independent because whenever I offer help he doesn't want me to help him. He is horrible because he always fights with me. My parents like him because they think he is cute. He is important to me because he is my brother.

My favourite memory of my little brother is when we went to New Zealand and saw sheep. My favourite part of the day is when my friends let us into the pen to feed the sheep. I also remember that when we were playing baseball my friend knocked out one of my teeth! If I had a lot of money I would buy my little brother 1,000 drawing books because he loves drawing.

by Sean Meng (Y3, CIS)

Adventures in 2010

Today, I had a soccer tournament. I was a defender on ISF's soccer team. We were leading by one nil when I heard some really loud sounds, but I thought "It must be a plane." So I carried on playing.

After we scored another goal the sound started getting louder and louder and after awhile a spaceship-like object crashed into the middle of the court. Two people were fighting, but what were they using? Their weapons were flashing and it looked like they could destroy anything. "Oh..." I realized it was a light saber so that meant they were Jedis.

The sweat dripped down my forehead as the final buzzer rang. A rush of defeat surged through my body as I collapsed onto the floor, devastated from the loss. All our hard work had gone to waste as the 2-1 was given to our opponents, the Spartans. They outplayed us in almost every way, and we had to deal with the ramifications.

The regular season started with a fury of wins as our team defeated 8 other schools. Our ninth game led to our first loss, as we were defeated by the Trojans, a group of players each a year older than us. The game came down to the final seconds, where our star player Oscar was unable to convert the game-tying free-throw, handing us the loss. However, our hopes were still high, and we continued to work hard for the remainder of the season, ending it with a 21-3 record and the top seed in the league.

The playoffs were a tough challenge, as each team worked hard to advance into the next round. We almost lost in our first game against the Islanders. However, in the last minute we pulled away with a 7-0 run to ensure our victory. The intensity of the second round hit us again, as we faced our bitter rivals, the Trojans. The double overtime game was full of highlights as each team went on streaks of runs as the tight game was only decided in the final seconds as Oscar scored a clutch three to give us the one point lead.

By the next week, the Finals began, as Game One started with a blur. Our run-and-gun offense hit the Spartans quickly, giving them little to no time to react to our fast pace. However, Game Two didn't end very well, as they found ways to counterattack our usual tempo and slowed down the pace of the Game. Playing with their rhythm, we were unable to perform at our accustomed pace and the game resulted with our defeat.

Two weeks later, we were put up against each other as we prepared for Game 3, the final game of the series. We started the game off with our usual tempo, quickly running down the court, as the Spartans were unable to respond. The first quarter ended with our 16-5 lead and we were pumped up for the next few quarters. However, as the game progressed and our players' energy slowly depleted, the pace slowed down and we learnt that the Trojans had just gotten started. They began the second half with a 10-0 run, as a three pointer allowed them to gain the lead over us. Our coach called a timeout, and gave us directions to play hard on their best player, a short blonde boy named Luke. Our defense replied well to his quick moves to the basket, as we led to a myriad of steals and blocks which in turn led to baskets on the offensive end of the floor as we finished the quarter with the 3 point lead. However, our stamina proved to be our weakness, and the fourth quarter hosted a number of wild shots from distances that none of us could ever make. The Spartans exploited our fatigue as they drove quickly to the basket easily with no defense to stop them. As we played into the final minutes, we started coming alive as a number of quick steals led to easy baskets. With a minute left in the game, I scored an 18 foot field goal to tie the game at 54-54, though this was countered with a three pointer from Luke, as they regained the three point lead. We once again turned to Oscar as he set up his final shot. With 10 seconds left, he released the ball, and as it soared into the air everybody expected it to go in. It was long and it hit the back iron of the rim and their players quickly grabbed the ball for the rebound. We knew we had to foul and it led to two easy free throws for them. With 0.4 seconds left, we inbounded the ball, though we knew it was over, and that there was no hope. We had lost the game. We had lost the finals.

We came into the game expecting the win, expecting to go home with a trophy in our bag. Although we were unable to achieve our ultimate goal, we had gotten very far, as we not only had been a finalist, but also had the liberty of holding the top seed in the league. The team had progressed well, and our chemistry and teamwork grew not only on the court, but also off the court, as many friendships were built in the process.

The coming season will once again serve as a challenge for my team, the Alloys, and I know that if we continue with the same work ethic and the same intensity as our previous season, the results will only be positive.

My Life in Words

I am writing about my mother. She is a family member of mine. She is helpful because she cooks food for me. She is caring because if I am hungry she buys food for me. She is friendly because she makes friends with everyone. One important thing I have learnt from her is not to be naughty on the road because if you cross the street without being careful and a car hits you, you will die.

My favorite memory of my mother is that she brought me to Disneyland. I swam at the Hollywood Hotel. I took photos with Buzz Lightyear. I also rode a rollercoaster and I was very scared. I rode a car that was very fast and I almost fell down from the car. When I was there I went to the hotel and rested. Then I went shopping. At Disneyland she helped my sister cross a really scary bridge. My sister was so scared so my mother held her hand. She showed she is caring because she bought toys for me at the shops in Disneyland. My mum is friendly because she made friends with everyone in Disneyland.

My Christmas wish for my mom is I would like to give her extra time to relax. In the coming year I would like to go to USA to see the Metropolitan Museum in New York with my mom.



Adventures in 2010: “Zip-lining”

When I went to church camp, I expected to be zip-lining off of a ledge on a tree. Instead, the person in charge said, “We’ll be zip-lining around the world, so go back to your cabins and pack whatever you need to pack, and come back here tomorrow at 10:00a.m. Be punctual or else I’m leaving without you.” After that, everyone went home to pack.

The next day, my family and I went back to the meeting place at 10:00a.m., and saw that everyone had nervous looks on their faces. I saw lots of big luggage and heard people murmuring, including my family. We went up to the roof of a building and the person in charge pointed to me and said, “You’ll go first.” He showed us how to put on the harness and told us that since we couldn’t wait for everyone to finish first, we had to go 1 minute after each other and that he would go behind the last person.

I nervously went up to the edge of the building after he had hitched me to the wire. All of a sudden, WHOOSH, I felt all the wind on my face and realized that the person in charge had pushed me off the ledge when I wasn’t even ready yet. I heard a loud scream from behind me and saw a person zooming towards me! When I looked in front again I saw that there was a humungous gap and a sign that said: “Flying to Antarctica. Please put on your jackets.” Then I fell down and saw Antarctica just as I finished putting on my jackets. I heard tons of penguins quacking with delight and then I saw that I was suddenly surrounded by water. There was another sign: “Eat as we swim to Paris.” Then, I smelled the scent of everyone’s lunches and food and tasted the sushi I had packed. Just as we finished, I saw the Eiffel Tower. We dove in and out of shops, smelled the freshly baked breads and looped along with the roller coasters.

Then, all of a sudden, we were in a tube and an electronic voice said, “Sliding back to America.” Everyone cheered as they didn’t like flying off the track to another place or going under water.

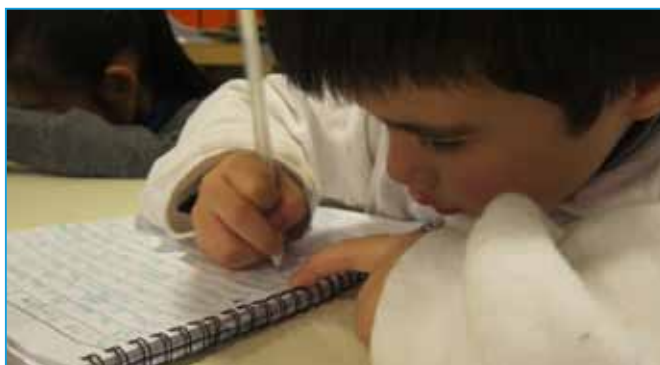
As the slide ended, the person in charge asked, “Would you like to go home or take a trip to outer space this time?”

by Faith Yuen (G5, ICS)

This is Me Now ... and Later : Those Harsh Words

Last year, I was fooling around and obviously not paying attention to my studies until my mom came up with the idea of letting me go to Australia for my studies. I wanted to go so badly, but I also knew that having academic results like mine were certainly not going to persuade the school to accept my application.

My mom flipped opened the newspaper and saw that the school was going to hold an interview here in Hong Kong, so we quickly applied for it. The first thing that we had to do was to show the evaluators my report cards – I never really want to show them to anyone. After having a look they spoke their first words “Quite horrible results, eh?” That was harsh. I sure did not know how to respond to that but fortunately my dad helped me out and kept the conversation going. At the end of the interview, the evaluators started to rethink my possibilities of going into the school.



“Quite horrible results, eh?” that was probably the harshest thing that anybody had ever said to me, and yet, it has inspired me to work harder on my studies. Anyway, the school had invited me to their campus in the summer, so before that, I could try to work my very best to persuade them once again to accept my application. I guessed it worked. Just like everybody

else, I had to take a test so that they could evaluate my ability. I knew that I had to take a test, so I prepared for it really hard. We were in the school when we knew my results, so basically the school knew my results at the same moment that I did. Their faces were shocked at first and they turned to me and said “Good Job!” I didn’t know what was happening until they showed me my results. Basically, I was only a few marks away from getting 100 for every subject they tested me on, besides the oral test where I got full marks! I was satisfied with my results and so was the school. They told us to wait for a few minutes and after that they told me that they had a place for me.

It was the first time that my dad actually felt proud of my results and it was also my first time to be proud of myself– you could tell how bad my studies were before. The feeling was actually quite amusing and I liked it. But still my dad wouldn’t let me go as he thought that I just got lucky, he needed me to work hard on my exams in school and I just had to prove to him that I was really good enough to go.

You may not see how I really changed or how much I have changed, but I am proud to tell you that I have. I think that I also have to thank the evaluator that said those harsh words. Those words helped out me a lot. Although I don’t know the results for my exams this time, but I think I am pretty sure I am going to Australia. In the coming year, I will work really hard to let my parents know that they have made the right decision to let me go overseas for my studies.

by Gerry Li (G9, DBS)

Meet the Food Bank

In week 2 of our Christmas Workshop, students learnt about food wastage issues in Hong Kong and the food bank's role in providing hunger relief to the poor. On the day of the field trip, students were taken to a food maze set up by the People's Food Bank (St. James' Settlement) at Noah's Ark to volunteer and to meet with representatives from the People's Food Bank. Back in the classroom, the younger students designed posters while the older students created promotional material (powerpoint slides) for the People's Food Bank to promote their Food Drive Campaign.

Poster Designer: Nadia Ho (P1, SIS)



"Don't Waste Food!"

My poster for the Food Bank is called Don't waste food. I chose this title because a lot of people waste food. If you don't know what the food bank is, let me tell you. It is a place that gives food for people who have no food. You can also help the food bank by giving canned food. If you donate food, you have to follow the rules of the food bank.

You should only donate certain kinds of food like milk powder, dumplings, instant noodles and tuna.

The reason you can only donate this kind of food is because it is not junk food it won't go rotten quickly.

I think the food bank is a good cause because it helps poor people.

My experience at the Food Maze at Noah's Ark was fun because there were lots of different things to do.

One success story I can share with you is Ms. Lee didn't have a job and her sons were starting primary school. They had money problems so they went to the food bank for help.

Poster Designer: Harry Shum (P3, SIS)

My poster for the Food Bank is called "Food Bank Rocks". I chose this title because it rocks and people will think it is interesting. If you don't know what the food bank is, let me tell you. It is a place which donates food to homeless people.

You can also help the food bank by donating money to them. If you donate food, you have to follow the rules of the food bank. You should only donate certain kinds of food like canned food and instant noodles.

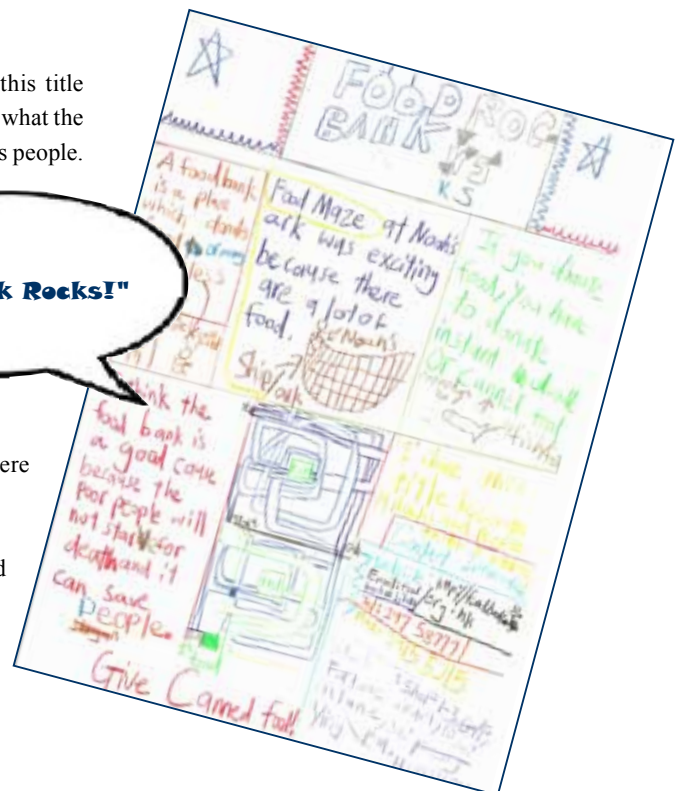
The reason you can only donate this kind of food is because maybe the food won't go rotten quickly.

I think the food bank is a good cause because it can save people.

My experience at the Food Maze at Noah's Ark was exciting because there was a lot of food.

One success story I can share with you is Ms. Cheung Ho, who lived with her husband and daughter. They argued and Ms. Cheung's husband hit her. So Ms. Cheung and her daughter went to the food bank.

"Food Bank Rocks!"



Poster Designer: Ian Fong (P2, SIS)



"What is a Food Bank?"

My poster for the Food Bank is called "What is a Food Bank?". I chose this title because it is talking about the food bank.

If you don't know what the food bank is, let me tell you. It is a place that helps poor family by giving them food. You can also help the food bank by donating food to them so they can give the food to poor people. If you donate food, you have to follow the rules of the food bank. You should only donate certain kinds of food like noodles, can food, chewing gum, tea and powdered milk.

The reason you can only donate this kind of food is because they won't expire quickly.

I think the food bank is a good cause because they donate food to poor people.

My experience at the Food Maze at Noah's Ark was difficult because it was hard to get through the maze.

One success story I can share with you is Mrs. Chan's family because her husband is disable. They received money from the government however it was not enough, so they applied for the food bank in order to support the family.



Poster Designer: Kathy Fong (P2, SIS)

My poster for the Food Bank is called "Donate Food to the Food Bank". I chose this title because we need to bring food to the food bank. If you don't know what the food bank is, let me tell you. It is a place to provide short-term food assistance to the poor. You can also help the food bank by going to the food bank to donate food. If you donate food, you have to follow the rules of the food bank. You should only donate certain kinds of food like sardine, noodles, chewing gum, tea bags, luncheon meat, baked beans, milk powder, soya bean milk.

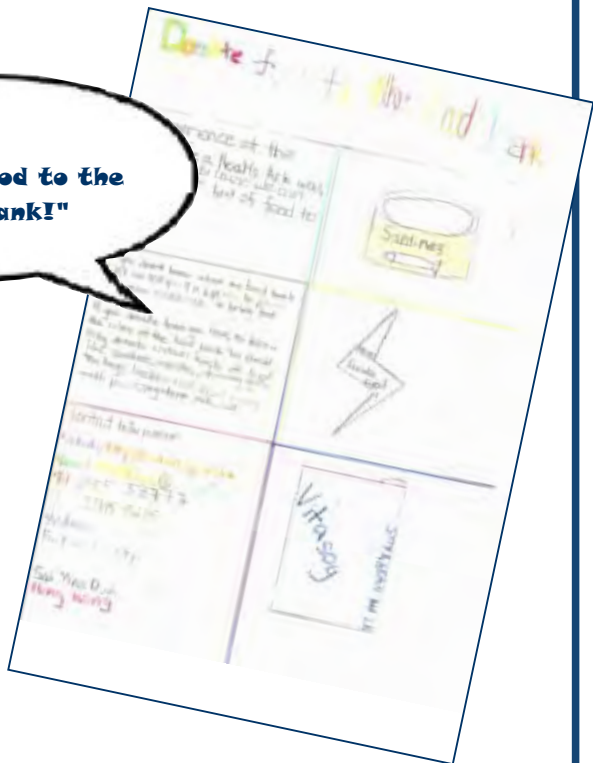
The reason you can only donate this kind of food is because they won't expire quickly.

I think the food bank is a good cause because we can give food to babies and the elderly.

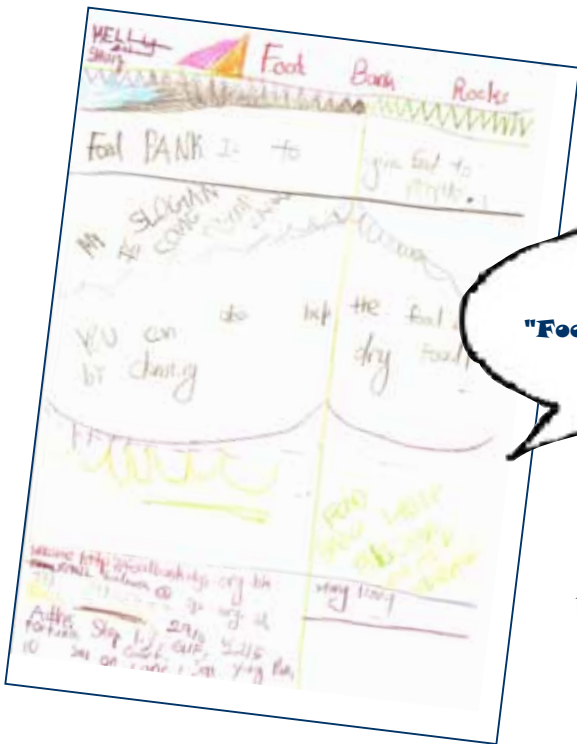
My experience at the Food Maze at Noah's Ark was really fun because we could see what kind of food to donate.

One success story I can share with you is about Mrs. Chan who worked in Hong Kong while her husband lived in China. Unfortunately her job didn't work out and she soon became jobless. She asked People's food bank for help and they gave her emergency food and some children's clothes.

"Donate Food to the Food Bank!"



Poster Designer: Kelly Shum (P1, SIS)



"Food Bank Rocks!"

My poster for the Food Bank is called "Food Bank Rocks". I chose this title because it rocks. If you don't know what the food bank is, let me tell you. It is somewhere to provide food to poor people. You can also help the food bank by donating dry food. If you donate food, you have to follow the rules of the food bank. You should only donate certain kinds of food like can food, oats, tea bags, soya bean milk, noodles and sardin.

The reason you can only donate this kind of food is because they take longer to expire.

I think the food bank is a good cause because it feeds the poor people.

My experience at the Food Maze at Noah's Ark was boring because I was tired of running around.

One success story I can share with you is Mrs. Chan and her husband had 4 children (ages 12, 5, 10 and 10). They had money problems so they went to food bank to get short term food assistance.

My poster for the Food Bank is called "Helping the Food Bank". I chose this title because food bank only helps poor people for three months. If you don't know what the food bank is, let me tell you. It is always helping hungry and starving people. You can also help the food bank by donating canned food such as ham, luncheon meat and corn. If you donate food, you have to follow the rules of the food bank. You should only donate certain kinds of food like instant noodles, canned corn and ham, and baked beans.

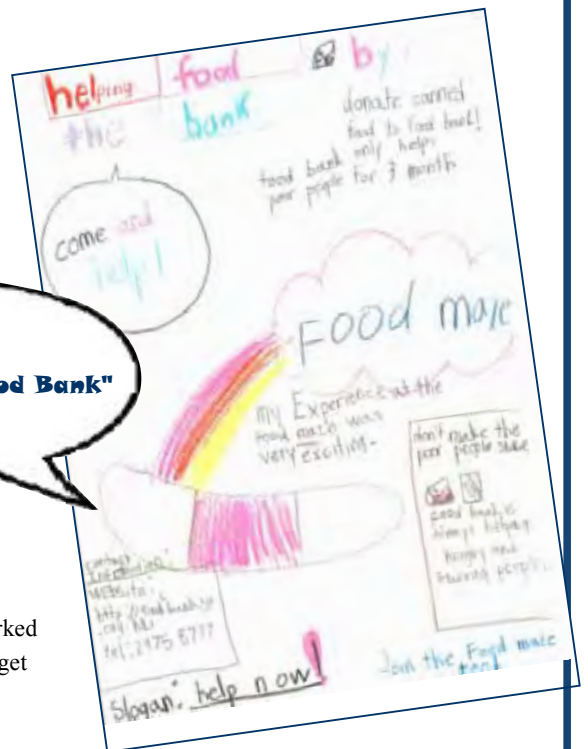
The reason you can only donate this kind of food is because it's dried food and takes longer to expire.

I think the food bank is a good cause because we get to help poor people.

My experience at the Food Maze at Noah's Ark was exciting because we wrote down the food we saw.

One success story I can share with you is Mrs. Chan's family lived in China. She worked in Hong Kong but her job did not last. She became jobless. She went to food bank to get emergency food assistance.

"Helping the Food Bank"



Poster Designer: Air Chung (K3, Learning Habitat Kindergarten)



Hello! My name is Adrian Hui. For the past 5 days at LEAP studio I have been learning about art. We were able to meet with Chris Wong, a professional artist. She showed us her paintings and explained how she used leaves, petals, etc to make art. I learnt about a lot of different artists. I liked all of them but my favourites were Chris Wong and Leonardo da Vinci. Leonardo da Vinci was an artist that was born in the little town of Vinci. He kept the town's name for his own surname. He was an artist, musician, mathematician, sculptor, inventor and a scientist all at the same time. As I mentioned earlier, Chris Wong was the artist that we met. She showed us how to hammer on the leaves to transfer the color to the paper. I like da Vinci because he was famous and I like Chris because my inspiration is also nature.

I had to follow 8 steps on how to build my chair. The 1st thing I did was brainstorm how the chair would be like and who the chair was for. Then, I thought about what the person liked. Then, I spent some of my time on following the steps. Then, I spent the remaining time on decorating my chair. My favourite step was decorating my chair because it was a lot of fun. I used paint and color pens and markers etc.

I had 2 big challenges when I was building my chair. The 1st one was when I put a piece in the wrong place. I realized it only when I glued the piece and the glue had dried. "Match Attax" and "Animal Kaiser" cards inspired me to decorate my chair the way I did. The 2nd challenge was when I glued the cards on because the glue came spilling out!

An important thing I learned from Chris Wong was that I don't need paint to make art. I can use leaves, twigs etc. In conclusion, I learnt that making art is hard work and you need to have an idea before you start. I hope everyone likes my card chair and I hope you have not wasted your time here!

by Adrian Hui (P2, SIS)



Greetings everyone! My name is Erin. For the past 5 days I have been learning about art. I was about to meet Chris Wong. She makes her art with nature. I learnt about a lot of difefrent artists. My favourite artists are Pablo Picasso and Chris Wong. I like Pablo Picasso because he paints in many different ways and he also invented cubism. I like Chris Wong because she does not use materials like paintbrushes and pencils, instead she uses nature.

I had to follow a couple of steps in order to create my chair. The first thing I did was I brainstormed who my chair would be for and what that person liked. I did this so that I would know how to decorate my chair. Afterwards I sketched how I wanted it to be like. My favourite step was putting the chair parts together. It was hard but fun. My chair is inspired by Van Gogh.

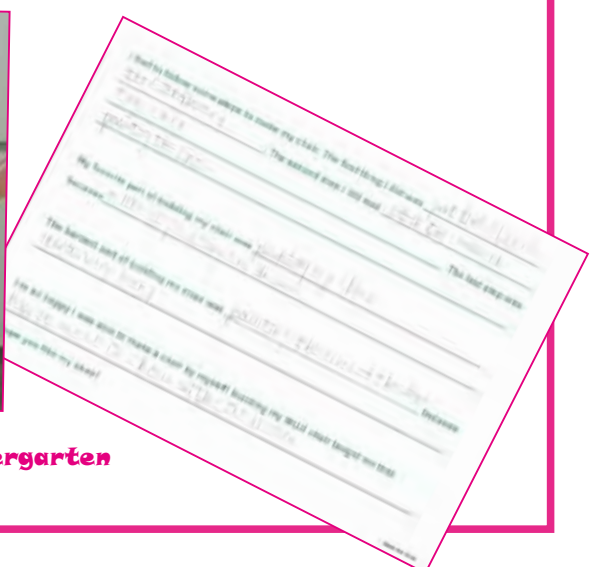
I had two big challenges to face while making and decorating the chair. The first one was putting the chair parts together. It was hard because when I was putting glue on the different parts all the glue went on my hands and my clothes. I kept on trying not to get glue on my hands. The second challenge was painting the sides of the chair because the paintbrush had a lot of water and the paint kept on dripping down the sides of the chair. These two things were extremely difficult, but I still had fun doing them.

One thing I learnt from the artist, Chris Wong, is that you don't need to use paintbrushes or expensive things to create art. Instead, you can use leaves, petals or flowers! After I made my chair, I learnt that even the hardest thing can be done. I also learnt that one thing can be made into lots and lots of very interesting versions! Thank you for your time that you have spent with me.

by Erin Hui (P2, SIS)



by Audrey Tse K3 SKH Kindergarten



Career and Life

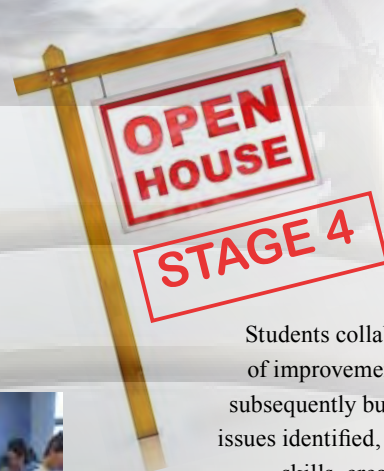
In the Summer of 2010, we were selected to run a "Career and Life" program at DBS Primary School. Consistent with LEAP Studio's mission, the objective of our program is to broaden students' perspectives and knowledge of different industries in the society so as to recognize the breadth of career opportunities and stay open-minded to options ahead. Responses from the students have been exceedingly positive - even the teacher who overlooked the class was impressed by the engagement of the kids and the amount of information they were able to retain.





OPEN HOUSE
STAGE 3

Students met with a professional architect who shared her background, project portfolio and her responsibility to the society. The architect presented a “case study” replicating a real life challenge she is facing - a client with a problematic retail store design. Through the case study, students were impelled to approach a problem with more discerning eyes, from various angles, and in different settings.



OPEN HOUSE
STAGE 4

Students collaboratively identified areas of improvement for the store design and subsequently built a model that addressed issues identified, applying problem solving skills, creativity and newly acquired concepts. As students tackled a problem set in the context of the guest speaker’s real life challenge, they built appreciation and respect for architects and recognized the skills and talents required for the profession.



LEAP Studio is ringing in the new year with great news from our students:

We are happy to share that all our K3 students who opted for the local school tracks this year got accepted into their first choice primary schools (DBSPD and DGJS)!

This is encouraging news as we only started our kindergarten program less than a year ago, and their achievements have validated the effectiveness of our program in developing critical thinking, communication, creativity and social skills in young kids.



“ Audrey is not only improving her English but also broadening her knowledge in her living environment and developing her skills in thinking from different angles...Kudos should be given to the teachers who pay personal attention to Audrey and customize classes to help her with her PI interview. This has led to stellar results in her PI interviews. ”

“ Heart-warming personalized and non-commercial immersion approach of LEAP Studio helps bring out the goodness and creativity in our child as we watched him grow leaps and bounds to reach greater heights. The private lessons definitely reinforced critical skills in exhibiting his best at the primary school interviews and assisted our son in getting into his dream school. ”

“ My son Ocean has been enjoying the kindergarten program at Leap Studio immensely! It is one of his most favorite classes! He enjoys the small, interesting and “topical approach” classes, where he becomes active learner, inquirer and thinker. He loves writing and spelling in relevant context, and he loves the teacher, who is intelligent, creative, attentive and patient! ”



Sign up for Our 2011 Classes!

Topic-Based Program (Age: 6-15)

* Modules are co-developed with experts and partner organizations to build social awareness, broaden knowledge and perspectives on current issues and different career options

English in Action (Age: 3-5)

* Using carefully constructed topics and activities, students use and develop their imagination, social skills, phonics, conversational development and language proficiency

Readers and Writers (Age: 6-15)

* This program is formed to develop healthy reading habits. Activities were designed to strengthen vocabulary, boost reading comprehension and introduce new writing techniques.



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