

Examples of Reading Week CSL projects done in Vancouver schools

Grandview/ʔuqinak'uuḥ Elementary School Project

University and elementary students worked together to build a raised garden and compost bin for the community garden, to pot plants to “green” the foyer of the school, and to build a giant abacus and measuring bench in the school playground for Grandview students to practice their math skills.

Macdonald Elementary School Project

Working with students from several of the elementary school classes, thirteen UBC students helped to complete two indoor murals at the school. Students learned firsthand about diversity issues in inner-city schools while designing an inclusivity-focused mural for the schools’ hallway outside the library and another mural in the cafeteria that focused on the four major food groups.

Laura Secord Elementary School Project

UBC students who are fluent in French worked with Grade 6 and 7 French Immersion students to create a Quebec-style Winter Carnival for their English-speaking peers. The Carnival was a celebration of French culture and language at Laura Secord School

Admiral Seymour Elementary School: Birds, Bats and Biodiversity Project

Highlights of the project included grade 3 and 4 students building bat houses and bird feeders, doing internet research on biodiversity, participating in a lab session where owl pellets were dissected, and going on a field trip to the UBC Botanical Garden.

Hastings Elementary School: Painting Project

This project explored the theme of “keep the environment clean.” UBC students worked with children from the Hastings Student Council to paint 30 garbage cans for the schoolyard. At the end of the project, students worked together to perform two skits for the entire school– “Charlie and the Garbage Can Factory” and “Darth Polluter and the Garbage Can Snatchers”. These skits encouraged everyone to use the garbage cans in their schoolyard.

Lord Beaconsfield Elementary School: Quilt Making Project

UBC students, together with Beaconsfield teachers, led 300 children at all grade levels in the creation of 15 quilts depicting the theme of respect. Beaconsfield students had been studying the topics of respect and social responsibility and this project allowed them to continue exploring the elements of respect in “project families.” This project ended in a large assembly, with each “family” presenting their quilt to the rest of the school.

Lord Beaconsfield Elementary: Literacy Anthology

UBC students teamed up with elementary students to write original poems and stories and publish them in a school anthology. Along with art designed to accompany the writing, the anthology will be bound and shared with other elementary schools within the Vancouver school district.

McDonald Elementary School: Fantastic Fruits and Veggies

This project educated children about the importance of healthy food choices. The UBC students and the kids planted a variety of vegetable seeds and sampled an array of fruits. The UBC team also coordinated the creation of a giant pot of nutritious soup that everyone ate.