

Middle Schools create a supportive environment to reach all adolescent learners. Students at Titusville Middle School celebrate learning achievements AND nurture their "inner authors" through...

MIDDLE MATTERS

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Jedi Warrior Mrs. Colie

by: Ella Matteson

Mrs. Colie glides swiftly, trying with all her might not to sound the alarms. She wasn't as sneaky as she thought. Little did she know that a Stormtrooper was following her from a distance, watching her every single move. The young Jedi was attempting to disable the bomb which was going to be flown over the Republic.

She had not thought of surveillance cameras, and the guard began to stalk her. Mrs. Colie didn't realise they knew

of her presence till, all of a sudden, over the intercom a dark wispy voice says, "Forget it, young Jedi! We shall destroy the Republic!"

It was Darth Vader! All of a sudden, he appears out of the darkness; light-sabers are drawn. The only sound you can hear is the buzz of the sabers clashing together.

Darth Vader swings; Mrs. Colie stumbles, falling backward. All of a sudden, the Millennium Falcon comes to catch her. Han Solo, Princess

Leia, Chewbacca, and Luke Skywalker were able to save her. They all had on Stormtrooper uniforms, and together they marched into the Death Star to disable the bomb.

No one had a clue of their identity, and they were able to get away by changing the location and sending its coordinates to Darth Vader's hideaway.

That night they made history and changed the galaxy together. They had overcome the Separatists.

Star Wars Characterization

by: Period 6 Enrichment Students

YODA

Yoda is a little green monster that helps everyone out from time to time. He is a wise old creature, living 900 years before dying in *Return of the Jedi*. He speaks in inverted sentences (Example: Much to learn, you still have).

He is a Jedi master. He went into hiding on the swamp planet of Dagobah after Anakin turned to the dark side. He is good friends with Chewbacca and the rest of the Wookiees. Yoda is best known for his quote "Do or do not, there is no try."

LUKE SKYWALKER

Raised by his aunt and uncle on a Tatooine moisture farm, he has the dreams of having a more exciting and adventurous lifestyle. He is the son of Anakin Skywalker and Padme, and Leia is his twin sister. He trained

under Obi Wan and Yoda. Through training, Luke changes from an adventure-seeking youngster into a more mature, calmer Jedi Warrior. As a Jedi, he is brave and is one with the force.

R2D2

R2D2 is an astro-droid who is Luke Skywalker's companion. He was previously owned by Anakin Skywalker. He is very faithful and loyal to his companions. He is a happy droid most of the time and other times he gets scared over the littlest things. How R2-D2 speaks is with beeping noises and he is able to make holograms to show his companions. Most of the time he is a cheerful droid. He has appeared in every *Star Wars* movie except for *Rogue One*.

ANAKIN

Anakin Skywalker is a Jedi knight who turned to the dark side. He was

married to Padme. He is the father of Luke Skywalker and Leia Organa. He built the protocol droid C3PO. He became DARTH VADER in Episode III: *Revenge of the Sith*.

DARTH VADER

Darth Vader is the antagonist in the story. He keeps Luke from succeeding throughout the story. He is an evil Sith lord who uses the dark side of the force to only do evil rather than doing good.

Chewbacca & Hans

Chewbacca is a Wookiee who is best friends with Hans Solo. Together they fly the Millennium Falcon across the galaxy. They are both rebels who eventually become friends with Luke & Leia in their adventures against Darth Vader. Together they add comic relief to the movies and books.

STAR WARS DAY



In the picture, left, Gavin Griffin makes his way through Yoda's hut on Dagobah.



Students in seventh grade participated in Star Wars Day before Christmas break. Leading up to this culminating activity, students read the novel *Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith* and watched several episodes of the movies in their core classes. The unit focused on the characterization of Anakin Skywalker, who eventually evolved into Darth Vader, and his son, Luke Skywalker. Science classes focused on the technology side of the movie and robotics, using technology integrations with EV3.

During the month of December in preparation for the culminating day, students participated in many challenges that gained them points through their advisory classes. Five advisories were assigned as the SITH (dark side) and five were JEDI advisories. The two teams then competed for points.

They completed door decoration and Math Jedi Coloring, created Star Wars videos and other challenges against the other advisories. They were able to choose other activities to gain points such as creating May the Force Be With You videos and an advisory droid or Star Wars space crafts. Some students chose to read another Star Wars book or use creativity to write a Star Wars story casting Mrs. Colie as either a Jedi or Sith Lord. There was also a chal-

lenge in the gym where students competed in scooter pod races.

During Star Wars day on December 21, students participated in many stations. For some of the stations, students had to use the Force to navigate through obstacles in the galaxy. They journeyed through the Swamps of Dagobah, the place where Luke received his Jedi training, completing two challenges.

First, they had to cross all members of their advisory groups through the Swamp of Dagobah, blindfolded, as Storm Troopers placed obstacles in the way. Then each advisory student crossed through Yoda's hut, which they constructed using 6 hula hoops.

They also received Jedi Training and had to use the Force to compete against an opposing advisory. These Padawan learners used the force to defeat other advisories in several games, such as "Luke, Palpatine, Vader" in the place of Rock, Paper, Scissors, and a ping pong challenge. For other stations, students had to use technology skills to guide them through the galaxy. In the computer lab students played Star Wars Code, a Star Wars computer simulation.

In another station they participated in a Droid Challenge using Lego Robotics EV3 Mindstorm units. The goal was for students to program their

droids to recovery plans for the Empire's Death Star. Once they secured the plans, students needed to create a satellite up-link to transmit the plans and get their droid to safety. The plans would ultimately be used by the rebel alliance to destroy the Death Star and save the galaxy. In the final station, Scene Building, students created their favorite scenes from the book.

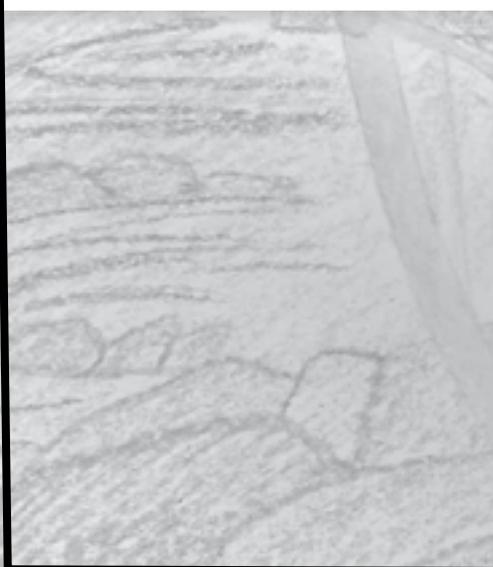
After rounding the stations, students returned to advisory rooms to watch *Star Wars Episode III, Revenge of the Sith*. Many advisories had earned enough points through the unit to award them snacks during the movie. Overall winners were from the SITH team which consisted of the following advisories: Mr. Mowrey, Darth Vetter, Mrs. Machokas, Mrs. Clementi, and Mrs. Daugherty.

Overall, the experiences, challenges and obstacle courses were a great success throughout this entire unit and provided students with many enjoyable, creative, and hands-on learning activities.

To complete the unit... on December 22, the entire seventh grade went to see the newest movie, *Star Wars, Rogue One*, at the Cranberry Mall. Students seemed to enjoy this excursion, and the two days were a great educational experience for our students!

Artists' Corner

Artwork below was submitted by Titusville Middle School teacher, Jessica Salapek. The picture, left, was painted by eighth grade student, Maddison Nellis. This canvas illustrates a Yorkie in the style of Fauvism. The self-portrait, right, was created by eighth grade student, Bridgette Spear.



Haley Sutton, left, and Jordan Eason work together using Lego Robotics EV3 Mindstorm units to program their droids to recovery plans for the Empire's Death Star.

