



MACA at a Glance

April 8, 2016

MACA Kindergartens Create and Race Cars While They Learn About Motion

The MACA kindergarten room recently had a race track in it where cars were speeding down inclined ramps and going the distance. Mrs. Parsons and her class just finished a science unit on forces and motion. To put what they learned into practice, the kindergarten students created and decorated a tissue box car. Each student brought in a character to drive their car. Racers that day included Beanie Babies, army men and even Elsa and Anna from Frozen who rode in their car with Rey from Star Wars.

In this unit, the students learned how to make predictions about how fast and far their cars would travel based on the size and shape of their wheels and cars. The class used different sized wheels for different sized tissue boxes, both of which affected the movement capabilities of each car. The students learned about friction and its effect on movement.

As each student took a turn at racing his/her car, the rest of the class watched and cheered. The students learned, but they also had fun. Here are what the kindergarteners said about the experience:

"I learned that you have to put the cars at an angle on the ramp, because if you put it straight, it won't go as far." Christopher

"I had fun with my driver. She was a unicorn and she had wings." Alyssa

"It was fun because you can go against different cars and the person who drove my car was an army man named Sniper Man." Ezekiel

"I learned that the cars don't work without rubber bands on the wheels." Carson

"It was fun because I decorated my car with stickers." Vince

"My car went fast one time." Ellie

"My car flipped." Eden



Mrs. Parsons helps Nate prepare his car for the race while Alyssa, Bailey, Emily and Carson watch.

"I liked the race because they went down the ramp." Joshua

"It was fun because people won every time. I didn't win because my wheel turned sideways." Peyton

"It was fun because I won and I went from here to here." Colleen

"I learned if the car doesn't have four wheels it won't win the race." Bailey

"It was fun because I got to put stickers and drew with crayons on my car." Emily

"It was fun because cars were going against each other." Nate



Nate and Ezekiel waiting for the start of their race

Sara Reitz Prepares for Teaching Major While Assisting Middle School English Students

Junior and senior MACA students may choose to serve as a teacher's aide during one of their free periods. These students assist teachers in their classroom preparation, instruction and organization. They also can serve as mentors and tutors to younger students. This opportunity provides these advanced students with the chance to serve and to experience the classroom from a teacher's perspective. Teacher's aides are very valuable to the teacher and students they assist, but they also gain a great deal from the experience.



Sara Reitz, a MACA senior who plans to attend Lancaster Bible College and major in Elementary Education, is currently working with Mrs. Teixeira as a teacher's aide for her middle school English classes. The experience has been invaluable to Sara. "I decided to become a teacher's aide because I was interested in becoming a teacher. My experience as a teacher's aide has shown me that I definitely want to become one."

One of Sara's major contributions to the class is her creation of a bulletin board which shows the steps for writing a research paper, a major assessment project students have been working on in English. "Mrs. Teixeira asked me to design a bulletin board about completing a research paper. She gave me the steps to the process and then I had to plan. It took me a few days to get

all the supplies and information.” Sara explained. “I really enjoyed being able to do this bulletin board and I learned a lot about planning visually.”

Sara says the TA experience has taught her a great deal about being a teacher. “I have learned about how much effort goes into being a teacher. I have really enjoyed watching how Mrs. Teixeira keeps her students engaged. I have also learned about how much time and effort goes into grading papers and tests.”

Sara says the best part about the job has been giving back to the teachers. “They work so hard on planning classes, grading our work and also taking care of their classroom. I love being able to make Mrs. Teixeira’s day easier.”

While Sara has enjoyed being a teacher’s aide, Mrs. Teixeira has greatly appreciated having Sara assist her students. “Sara has been invaluable to me this year,” said Mrs. Teixeira. “She has helped with anything that I needed done, from online research for my class to copying to cleaning, all with a cheerful attitude.”

Currently, 18 MACA students are giving back through their work as a teacher’s aide. These students are learning while they serve throughout the MACA campus, in areas such as athletics, library, elementary, middle school, technology, Spanish, history, advanced math, advanced science and even in the MACA school office. Perhaps many of them will build on this experience as they decide on college majors and careers. This program is simply another way MACA can help our students advance toward the future God has in store for them.

MACA Family Night at the Ballpark - Save the Date

Join us on Friday, April 22 at 7:00 p.m. at Harry Grove Stadium in Frederick as MACA Varsity Baseball takes on New Life in what has come to be known as the “I-70 Showdown.” This night of family fun begins when gates open at 6:00 p.m. with activities such as a Meet and Greet opportunity with Keyote, the Keys Mascot, and pre-game ceremonies including MACA Spring Athlete Senior Recognition and the ceremonial first pitch. Following the game, the kids are invited on to the field to run the bases. More details will follow. We look forward to a great night with MACA Nation!

A MACA Summer

Star Wars Camp with Coach Teixeira? Art time with Mrs. Esterly and Mrs. Bouslog? Reading and History camp with Mrs. Teixeira? Science Camp with Mrs. Finch? Who wouldn’t want to come to camp? The camp courses this year are awesome! To register your K-8th grader for a MACA Summer camp, please refer to the brochure and registration form from last week’s Communication Folder, or by going to RenWeb, in the *Announcement section*, and downloading a copy. Registration forms with deposit can be turned into the office at any time.

Is MACA a Cool School?

Don't forget to vote once a day from Monday, April 4 through Sunday, May 1. The winning school gets prizes for each teacher, each student and a cast prize for the school. A flier was sent home in last week's folder. Additional copies are located in RenWeb in the *Announcement* section. Please take a moment to read the flier and choose to vote every day for MACA - your cool school.

Important Calendar Reminders

Tuesday, April 5	Study Skills Lab open during Secondary Lunch
Wednesday, April 6	High School Field Trip to MD Senate and Tour of Annapolis
Saturday, April 9	11th Annual Dinner & Auction
Tuesday, April 12	Study Skills Lab open during Secondary Lunch
Thursday, April 14	National Honor Society Induction
Friday, April 22	ACSI Regional Art Festival for Middle School
Friday, April 22	MACA Family Night at Keys Stadium
April 25-29	Terra Nova Testing (Grades 2-5, 7)
Tuesday, April 26	Middle School Field Trip to the Newseum/Washington, DC
Friday, April 29	Progress Reports