



# WFC S.T.A.R. News: Pulaski Edition



June 2011

Thanks for reading our first publication of the WFC S.T.A.R. News, the Pulaski Edition! The second year of S.T.A.R. (science, technology, art and recreation), was another great success! Students were busy travelling through space, using simple machines and investigating electricity. The Human Body, Earth Science and Water Conservation were some new units added to our curriculum. Check out the back page for pictures of students in action!

As we begin to plan for the next school year, we have several projects in the works. Funding received from the Hoffman Foundation will allow us to continue our Environmental unit through the

first few months of school. We are also working on obtaining funding for a literature grant that will introduce students to the process of becoming published authors. The writing process and bookmaking production, including illustration and binding, will be the focus of the curriculum.



A special thanks goes out to the CUNO Foundation and AT&T for providing scholarships for five students to attend our program after school!

*The S.T.A.R. program exposes children to many forms of art and fields of science, requiring them not only to use their imagination, but also rely upon their growing knowledge of math and technology. Each thematic unit seeks to increase the children's awareness of their social, physical, and interpersonal relationships and environments.*

## Aspiring Artists



Congratulations to Jordyn and Zoe for being selected as finalists in the CT After School Network's "Faces of After School" self portrait contest! Students completed a series of self portraits based on a variety of artistic styles. Out of hundreds of entries throughout the state,

Zoe's and Jordyn's portraits were chosen to hang in the New Britain Museum of American Art, along with the other finalists. An award ceremony was held at the museum May 7th and their artwork was also included on the CT After School Network website, [www.ctafterschoolnetwork.org](http://www.ctafterschoolnetwork.org).

### New Program Hours!

Starting the 2011-2012 school year, we will be open at 6:45am! Our program remains open in the afternoon until 5:30pm.

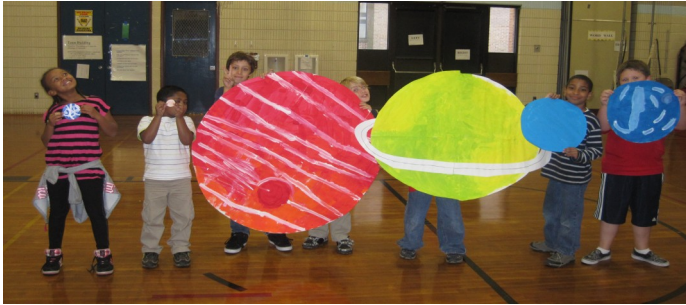


Women and Families Center  
169 Colony Street  
Meriden, CT 06450  
[www.womenfamilies.org](http://www.womenfamilies.org)

Bethaney Goodrich, Program Manager  
Email: [bgoodrich@womenfamilies.org](mailto:bgoodrich@womenfamilies.org)  
Phone: (203) 235-9297 ext 136



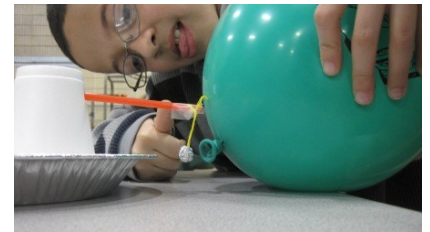
# Highlights from S.T.A.R.



Continuing our Space unit from last year, students learned more about the eight planets. Craters, gravity and space travel were also exciting new lessons.



Static and current electricity were explored using a variety of objects. Students also created an electroscope, a device used to detect static charges.



Using common household materials and lots of imagination, students worked together to create their own version of a Rube Goldberg invention. This engineer turned cartoonist was well known for his drawings of comical contraptions that were the inspiration for the game "Mousetrap." Incorporating their knowledge of simple machines, students had to make their gumball travel as slow as possible through their "machine." You can see the video results on our website, [www.womenfamilies.org](http://www.womenfamilies.org).



During our newly added Earth Science unit, students learned everything about dinosaurs from discovering them, naming them and inventing new ones! Students dug for "fossils" in chocolate chip cookies and made their own dinosaur fossils from molds.

