

Daniels Farm Math Lab Update & Reflections

Mr. Kunschraft has shared numerous pictures from the math lab in newsletters throughout this school year. The math lab is a place for students to engage in mathematics while standing at vertical whiteboard and working in groups of two or three students. To date, there have been over 160 visits to the lab with each grade level coming at least five times. The work the students do in the lab reflects the standards they are working on in class as well as tasks designed to push their mathematical knowledge. Every time a class leaves the lab I am impressed by the student's ability to discuss the work they are completing.

I recently asked the students in grades 3-5 to respond to these two prompts:

1. What I like about coming to the math lab is ...
2. How do you feel when you are in the math lab?

Here are some of the answers that I received:

- I feel like I'm on another planet!
- Every time we get to work with someone new and that helps start new friendships.
- I like the math lab because they are not typical problems. The work is more like puzzles.
- I like the types of problems we do in the math lab and that we get to stand while doing them.
- In the math lab, I feel safe and I know students are open to hearing one another's thinking
- I feel excited to learn. I'm excited about so many math journeys.
- What I like about going to math lab is that it's a fun and interesting way of learning math because you get to work in groups and the things we do, not always, but most have a backstory which is sort of fun in my opinion.
- I learn new things and it is sometimes hard but I find a way to figure it out.
- When I come to math lab I feel happy that I'm getting challenged and I'm able to express my math thinking out loud.

At home, you can ask your child to respond to those same prompts. I would love to hear what they tell you. rtesesco@trumbullps.org