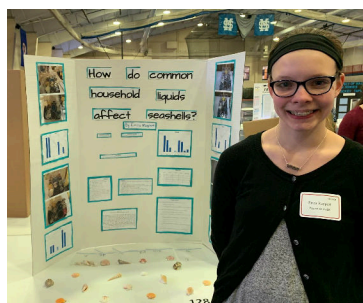


Erdkinder students participate in the Southeast Minnesota - Western Wisconsin Regional Science and Engineering Fair at St. Mary's University on Friday, February 21st.

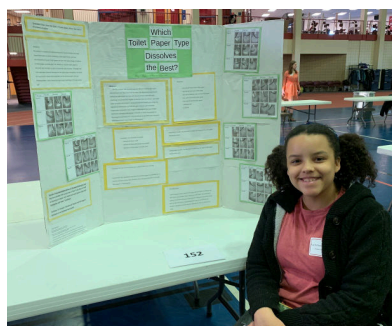
"What is a scientist?... We give the name scientist to the type of man who has felt experiment to be a means guiding him to search out the deep truth of life, to lift a veil from its fascinating secrets, and who, in this pursuit, has felt arising within him a love for the mysteries of nature ..." Dr. Maria Montessori

Following our *Bluffview Fair and Share* display of projects on February 14th, Oscar Heckman (Pucker Up: Sour Candy pH), Erica Ruppert (How do common household liquids affect seashells?), Chase Van Fossen (Liquid Type and Plant Growth) and Aza Theresa Williams-Carpenter (Toilet Paper Strength) went above and beyond class requirements by



choosing to participate in the Regional Science and Engineering Fair. Their interest, commitment, courage and determination are to be commended. They joined numerous students from throughout the region for the all-day Fair event. In addition to presenting to the judges and interacting with the public in the question and answer session, they also got to attend the *Wizbang Science Show*. Thank you to parents Marcy Van Fossen and Carrie Heckman for being with the students that day.

All students received awards and high praise from the judges. As family, classmates, teachers and fellow community members, we know how amazing our students are and the great things they achieve, but it is satisfying to see others outside of our hearts and arena recognize it as well. Here are just a few of the statements the judges made:



"Good choice of topic. This is an issue not only at a household level but also as an industrial level."

"Great presentation skills, very knowledgeable on topics related to the scope of this project."

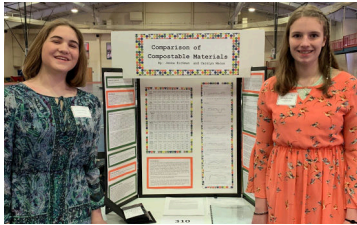
"Amazing responses to questions I posed. Very well prepared with background information"

"Graphs clearly show results making it easy to interpret."

"Clear understanding of project. Well spoken. Clear plans for future experiments and why."

"This was a cool experiment ... good job!"

Obviously the Science and Engineering Fair is about “science and engineering” and each of these students is to be commended for developing and carrying out experiments that reflected personal interest and creative thought, an understanding of the scientific method, and the ability to present their projects professionally. Additionally, they each demonstrated so well so many of the virtues we emphasize at Bluffview. Our students were courteous, thankful and showed humility. They were well spoken, confident and capable. Thank You to Oscar, Erica, Chase and Theresa for presenting yourselves and representing Erdkinder and Bluffview Montessori in such a positive manner! Congratulations to all of you on a job well done.



Also of note: The high school division students moving to the State level competition later this month are Bluffview Alumni Carolyn Macon and Jenna Eichman (Composting) and Willa Krase (Photosynthesis). Congratulations to Carolyn, Jenna and Willa as well and good luck at State!

