

# Science, math served with a SMILE

By Terri Harber  
Spilyay Tymoo

Pre-teen girls sat at a cafeteria table with aluminum pans and pieces of foil. But they weren't preparing to work with food; they were conducting a science experiment.

Similar experiments were carried out all around the multipurpose room at Jefferson County Middle School one recent November evening.

Students from the Warm Springs reservation participated in the annual event, which brought together a group of 4th-12th graders and their families as part of the SMILE program. Warm Springs Elementary School, Jefferson County Middle School and Madras High School are area schools that participate.

The aluminum pans were filled with water. And, not as visible at first glance, piles of pennies were stacked around the table. The idea was to use the foil to create a strong vessel to float the pennies in the water. No glue, tape, or cutting was permitted in designing the boats. Only folding the foil into different shapes was allowed. Engineering skills were key because the most resilient style boat was the one that held the most pennies.

Another group of children were arranging—and rearranging—pill bottles atop a large



Marisela Sanchez, 11, and Mascena Nava, 10, 5th graders at Warm Springs Elementary School, try an experiment during the SMILE event at Jefferson County Middle School.

scale. All of the bottles were the same size, but one bottle weighed more than the others.

A younger boy watched carefully as middle school girls placed bottles on both sides and tried to make the scale balance.

It was a physics lesson to illustrate the concept of size vs. weight. To be exact, it's a mass balancing experiment, explained Nia Tom and Cirelle Frank.

Both are in 7th grade at the middle school and from Warm Springs.

High schoolers helped middle school students who, in turn, helped elementary schoolers participate in an array of hands-on projects.

Demonstrations, however, were the most popular events. Young and old alike were impressed, for example, when diet

soda and Mentos were combined to create a huge wave of brown, foamy spew.

SMILE is short for the Science and Mathematics Investigative Learning Experiences Program. It's a partnership between Oregon State University and 14 school districts across the state—including Jefferson—to provide science and math enrichment.

## Holiday parade, tree lighting on Thursday

The Warm Springs Annual Christmas Lights Parade and Tree Lighting is this Thursday, Dec. 3.

The car light parade lineup begins at 6:35 p.m. at the Warm Springs Elementary School.

Entries will be judged in two categories: tribal enterprises and departments; and community member entries. There will be prizes for first, second and third place in each category.

The Warm Springs Recreation Department will present the Christmas Tree Lighting following the parade at the community center.

There will be Christmas carols, and hot chocolate and snacks in the community center social hall after the tree lighting.

Come and join the celebration. For details about this event, call Warm Springs Recreation at 553-3243.

## Christmas Bazaar on Dec. 12

Looking for that special gift for a loved one?

You will find what you are looking for—from jewelry, homemade crafts and beadwork to baked pie and other food—at the Thirty-Fourth Annual Christmas Bazaar.

The bazaar is set for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 12 at the Warm Springs Community Center, 2200 Hollywood Boulevard.

For information, contact the Community Center at 553-3248.

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## Report, Web site consolidate information on Columbia Basin fish and wildlife

Finding information about the status of fish and wildlife populations in the Columbia River Basin has just become easier with the release of a new report and Web site developed by tribal, state and federal fish and wildlife resource managers from throughout the Northwest.

Drawing from these and other sources, *The Status of Fish and Wildlife Resources in the Columbia River Basin* profiles the status and trends of fish and wildlife, habitat conditions and efforts to improve fish and wildlife populations throughout the Columbia River Basin.

Information provided in the annual report is supported by a Web site ([www.cbfwa.org/sotr](http://www.cbfwa.org/sotr)) that allows users to view data at a

finer scale, subbasin by subbasin, from the Columbia River estuary to the upper Snake River.

The web-based format is intended to be dynamic. Additional data will be incorporated on-line as it becomes available.

Users can quickly identify what fish and wildlife populations are the focus of restoration efforts in an area, how they and their habitat are doing, and what actions are being taken to improve those populations.

The project is an on-going effort coordinated by the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority (CBFWA), with collaboration from numerous tribal, state and federal agencies.

Funding was provided by the Bonneville Power Administration as part of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Fish and Wildlife Pro-

gram that helps mitigate impacts to fish and wildlife caused by the operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System.

The report was developed in collaboration with BPA and the council to provide an easy-to-read guidebook on the annual status and results of mitigation efforts in the Columbia River Basin.

The CBFWA, which developed the report, was chartered in 1987 to coordinate ongoing efforts to protect and enhance the fish and wildlife resources of the Columbia River Basin.

Members of the CBFWA include the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Burns Paiute tribe, Coeur d'Alene, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

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