

News release April 16, 2015

Rockin' curiosity at Woodside and Hawthorne elementary schools

"Curiosity Machine" visits each school for the next month for family STEM evenings

At Woodside
April 15, 22, 29 and May 6 from 5-7 p.m.
At Hawthorne
April 16, 23, 30 and May 7 from 5-7 p.m.



Forty-one families flocked to Woodside Elementary for the school's first in a series of family science nights based on physics and engineering. An equally large and enthusiastic group is planning to attend the first of Hawthorne Elementary series beginning on April 16.

Iridescent is a nonprofit educational organization from San Francisco sponsored by The Boeing Company to bring this series of events to students and families in Everett Public Schools. The series, called *Curiosity Machine*,

encourages curiosity and creativity by developing models, testing and redesigning. The program is another example of the district's emphasis on Science, Technology Engineering and Math (<u>STEM</u>) for students at all grade levels.

The *Curiosity Machine* connects scientists and engineers with children and their families so they can create together using everyday household items. *Natural Leaders*, a group of parents in the district, attended training sessions held by the *Curiosity Machine* program and volunteer engineers to help facilitate the events at each school.

Woodside students enjoyed a meal together before enthusiastically opening the tubs of supplies to build "stomp rockets" with the help of Central Washington University Engineers and Natural Leader helpers for the rest of the evening.

Allison Greenberg, the district's K-8 STEM science facilitator, described the event, "It was a delight to watch Everett elementary students work alongside family members to design and build their rocket models. Their sheer excitement to test and redesign their rockets was a testament to the power of STEM learning for young students."

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For more information:

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