

News-Review

EDUCATION

Petoskey hosts fourth grade STEM day



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PETOSKEY — Fourth grade students from all four Petoskey elementary schools came together last week to participate in a day of hands-on learning.

Spread out amongst nine different stations, the elementary students were placed with different groups and got to rotate around and work with each activity.

The different stations covered problem solving, robotics, teamwork and more.

There were stations set up allowing students to learn about robotics, play puzzle-based board games, work in an assembly line and more.

The fourth graders were able to use underwater ROVs, or remotely operated vehicles, as well as see the robots from both the middle school and high school robotics teams.

The students were also able to make tin foil boats and test buoyancy. Students tried different strategies to see how to get their boat to hold the most weight.

The Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council also helped lead a pond water study with the students.

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During the event, students were able to make candy and snack hamburgers through an assembly line station. The students watched a video about the assembly line before lining up to take their role. Students were responsible for setting up the vanilla wafer “buns,” adding the peppermint patties, or adding frosting.

Central Elementary teacher Sarah Harju said you can only reach so many students when working through verbal teaching or through paper and pencil, so the hands-on piece of

learning — like what was offered during the STEM day — is “crucial, especially in an elementary classroom.”

This is the second year Central has hosted the event, and Harju said the event ran even more smoothly thanks to having some additional help.

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