



Kindergarten Teachers and Students Continue *Animals Around the World* Project in 2021-2022

Winding up 2020-2021 PBL Activities by Adopting Zoo Animals



In early June, MGS Kindergarten teachers traveled to Rolling Hills Zoo to present a \$300 check for the Zoo's Adopt-an-Animal program. Before leaving for summer break, each teacher had their class choose two animals to adopt. Mrs. Freeman's class chose the aardvark and rhinoceros. Mrs. Noon's class decided they wanted to adopt the giraffe and wallaby, and Mrs. Shaft's students selected the flamingo and chimpanzee.

Money for the animal adoptions was raised by selling picture postcards of the animal each student had chosen to research and study throughout the school year. The postcards were sold at Kindergarten Celebration Night, and teachers were very grateful to everyone who purchased the postcards, which made it possible for the 2020-2021 kindergarten students to adopt the animals and give back to the zoo. For each of the six adopted animal, teachers brought back to the school a *Certificate of Adoption*, *Animal Fact Sheet*, *Animal Tales Newsletter* and 5 x 7 photo. The adoptions help with the care of the animals for one year.

Beginning a New School Year with *Animals Around the World* Project

Minneapolis Grade School Kindergarten classes kicked off their 2021-22 PBL activities by taking a surprise trip to Rolling Hills Zoo on August 27th. Teaming up with staff from Rolling Hills, students will attend monthly educational classes where they'll learn facts, characteristics, behaviors, and habitats of different animals that live throughout the world. In October, students will study *Fragile Friends*, followed by *Ferocious Friends* in November, *Four-legged Friends* in December, *Furtive Friends* in January, and *Forest Friends* in February.

Kindergarten students will also be selecting and researching one animal they want to become an expert on. Helping them with their research will be their MGS 5th grade "buddies". The kindergartners and 5th graders will take a Buddy Trip to Rolling Hills on April 21, 2022.



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