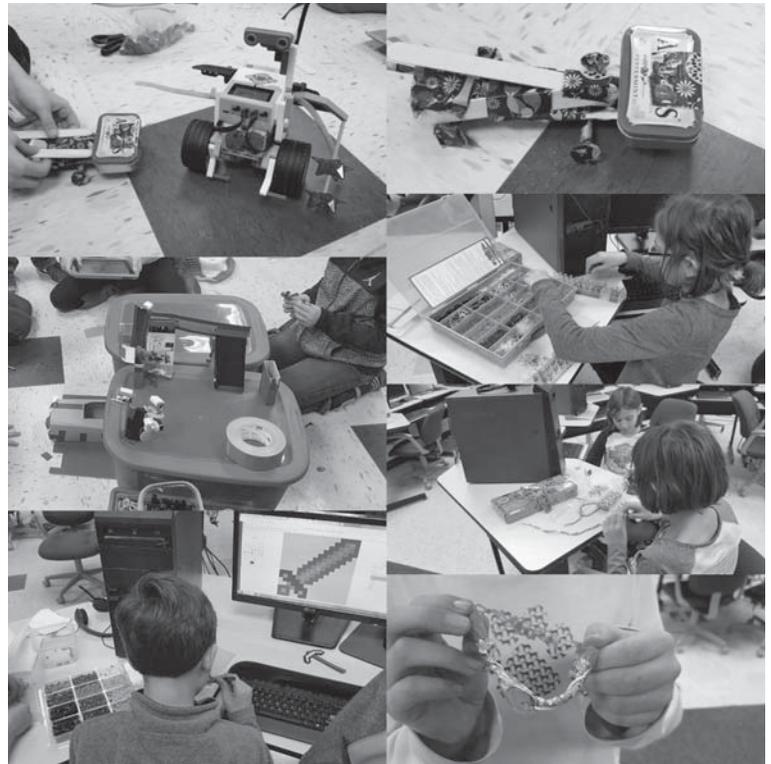


AE/MS Bridge Building Club Report

Andrew Tyler, AE/MS

Bridge Building is a new club that started up this year. Students from 7th and 8th grades teamed up in groups of three to learn how truss bridges were designed, built, and their uses. By using the research that they collected, students would then create their own design using computer software provided to us by the competition sponsor. We were also super fortunate to have a NHDOT engineer come visit us and give us a presentation on the forces that play on bridges, how engineers design bridges specifically to withstand those stresses.

We then began to build our model bridges with 1/8" x 1/8" balsa wood strips and glue. Students began building two walls, a floor, and a ceiling for their bridges. We are in the final stages of construction now and will be putting our bridges through a stress test in the following weeks to see which group created the most stable and strongest bridge. We, unfortunately, were not selected to move on to the national rounds, but students are excited to try again next year, ready to jump in with and apply all we have already learned to building a new type of bridge!



A variety of projects were undertaken by AE/MS students involved in the MakerSpace Club, from circuit design to engineering of virtual rockets.

Photo: AE/MS

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AE/MS MakerSpace Club End of Year Report

Andrew Tyler, AE/MS

Makerspace Club this year has been full of some amazing inventors, tinkerers, perlers, and makers! We welcomed a new group of Makers from this year's 4th grade and they have really jumped into the Maker mindset. Students explored circuit creation and even created some wearable technology with parachute cord, copper tape, a battery, and an LED. Others have been busy working to create Perler bead designs, often recreating Minecraft items and characters. We have had a couple of students working on Kerbal Space program where they can design, build, and fly a

rocket and learn more about the engineering process involved in creating a virtual rocket to travel into space.

Lego Mindstorms were very popular as students explore programming and robot design along with adding some creativity towards their projects. Finally, many students were focused on just working towards making something. A green screen movie studio popped up one meeting, and during another some paper circuit projects, rainbow loom, a duct tape race car, and more! We have had a great year and are very excited for Makerspace next year too!



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sign up for one long workshop, such as fishing, or two short workshops, which included many of the craft projects.

Paige Makechnie said that she signed up for the program on horses as she had done it before and she loves horses. She also did the Native American Beading which was new to her. She said: "Native American loom beading was actually more fun than I thought it was going to be and I learned how to make bracelets. I made a bracelet and gave it to my mother for Mother's Day." She is looking forward to making more bracelets and doing more horseback riding.

Paige's sister Brynee, who is in eighth grade has participated in many SHARE Days. She chose to do a Zumba Class and a drawing done with charcoal. She stated that "SHARE day was super fun. It was a new experience for me and introduced me to new things. I am really glad that Andover as SHARE

Day and all the experiences that come with it."

Share day provides a break from the normal school routine, but more importantly it gives the students a chance to experience something new and to be able to meet and work with a mentor from the community. It was obvious by the effort put into the projects and the mood of the students that this was a fun and educational day for them all.

After lunch an assembly was held in the gym and some of the students shared their musical talents with the group. The performance included A violin and French horn duet by Oliver Andrews and Brice Bendixsen, followed by a violin solo by Oliver Andrews. A vocal solo by Helen Armstrong, and a duet sung by Garrett Niemyer and River Turnbull concluded the entertainment.

Darling said that organizers are considering how to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Share Day next year.

