  

**Animation-ish Up Your Ordinary Everyday Projects!**

Crete Elementary has been the recipient of a fruit and vegetable grant for the past 2 years. The grant provided the students with a piece of fresh fruit or vegetables every school day afternoon. We have had oranges, apples, pineapple, peaches, broccoli, and peppers to name a few. We have also tried new and “different” types of produce like kohlrabi, avocados and kiwi. This food fuels our brain and helps to keep us healthy. Each grade level has discussed the importance of fruit and vegetables.

In **Kindergarten**, the students discussed good food and bad food. They did sorting with play food and then used the Animation-ish program to show what they have learned.

\*Students started off my listening to a story on healthy and unhealthy foods. Following the story children were able to sort play food into two categories unhealthy and healthy. Students were then able to go back to their seat and draw a picture of one healthy food and one unhealthy food. During center time children were giving the opportunity to use the Animation-ish to draw their foods. Children were able to do this because Animation-ish was a program that they were able to play with all school year along with the use of the bamboo tablet.

In **1st grade**, students studied the food groups. They used Scholastic News to help them get information and then used Animation-ish to sort food into food groups.

\*Students were introduced to the food group by reading Scholastic News about food groups. After discussing the types of foods in each food group, students were given pictures of food to sort. Students then drew foods for each food group in the food pyramid on paper. After drawing the foods in each group on paper, students then used the Bamboo tablet and the Animation-ish program to make it come alive!

**In 2nd grade,** students talked about what a well-balanced meal looks like and the importance of fruits and vegetables.

\*Students used a weekly reader to discuss how fruits and vegetables help your body. After discussing what a well-balanced meal consists of, students drew a meal on a paper plate, and then showed how to do that in an electronic version using Animation-ish and the bamboo tablet. Later the students incorporated the project into language arts by writing a paragraph on how fruits and vegetables help their body.

In **3rd grade**, students studied portion sizes of foods.

\*Students animated their findings to share with their classmates. They used a measurement amount or compared the portion to another object. Some examples are: a serving of grapes is the size of a light bulb or 1/3-cup nuts equal a serving.

In **4th grade,** students studied the food guide pyramid.

\* Students discussed the food groups and where different foods fell on the pyramid. The class recorded their daily food intake in a journal and then analyzed their diet to figure out if they were getting all their nutrients throughout the day. The students then used Animation-is to make a food pyramid and place different foods in their correct group. They also researched the nutritional value of various fruits and vegetables and shared their findings with their peers.

**Troubleshooting and Tips:**

**Use of Bamboo Tablets:** Incorporate the use of bamboo tablets into lessons/centers so students become familiar with the tool. Bamboos are not necessary with Animation-ish, but allow students to have the comfort of the pencil/paper feel.

<http://www.wacom.com/en/Products/BambooTablets.aspx>

**Plan:** Familiarize yourself and your students with Animation-ish tools before starting a project. Allow the students time to explore before starting a project. Before getting on the computers to use Animation-ish, we found it helpful to sketch the project page-by-page.

View the tutorial of the following site: [www.fablevision.com/animationish/](http://www.fablevision.com/animationish/)



**Ideas:** Once you have the software, take advantage of the predesigned lessons. Show those to your entire class.

<http://www.animationish.com/lessons.php>