



***Summer 2019
Middle School Zine***

You cannot be a writer unless you see yourself as one. Each middle school program begins with an exploration of ourselves as writers, creators, and communicators. Some work is created by the individual, and some work is a collaborative effort among several people.

Enjoy pieces from Podium's summer partner locations:

- 1. Full STEAM Ahead**
- 2. YMCA @ Binford MS**
- 3. Higher Achievement @ Boushall MS**
- 4. Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club**
- 5. Higher Achievement @ Binford MS**

**Self-Identity
Word Searches**

Debate

Science Fiction

Dream Vacation Gone Wrong

Collaborative Piece

Full STEAM Ahead Conference

My group of friends and I just love Hawaii! We got to see beautiful palm beaches, especially important since we live in a cold, boring town in North Dakota. We saw lots of dolphins, even though I like porpoises more. But, we had to leave the porpoises because it started to storm. There was too much rain, so we decided we had to get on our plane and head our next stop, Paris. When we arrived in Paris, we got out of the plane and tried to decide what to do next. We decided that Paris just wasn't for us, so we hopped on another plane for London to see Big Ben.

We finally arrived in London, but little did we know there was a huge rat infestation. We walked outside and saw a sign saying J-Berry the Pink Porpoise was killed by a rat disease. "Uh-oh!" I exclaimed. We suddenly realized that very few people were walking around, and the ones who were all looked pale and sick. I looked down and there were large, hairy rats everywhere! I screamed.

Suddenly, everything came together. We had to bring more people to London, so we found a phone and called Irish people to come live here. We called a few other countries, and they all agreed to help. Eventually, London was fully populated, rat free, and we were heroes.

In order to save London and the world, the group split into four teams, each responsible for helping correct this environmental emergency!

Team 1. Food

Team 2. Shelter

Team 3. Tools

Team 4. Safety

The following are journal entries from each teams' first days on the job.

In our new world and society, the city is going to have modern houses and buildings with tall glass windows. We have flying cars, roller coasters, speed trains, jets, and more for transportation. People get food and water by using food machines. You place your handprint on a device and pick any food you could think of. The types of places people live in are car and houses that transform into one another whenever you want. Also, there are modern houses where doors open for you. Some jobs include picking up trash and litter for a lot of money. There are to be no guns without a permit, no littering, no killing, and free college. Also, there is no President because the people run the government.

Scenario: Alien Invasion 1!

Jayda L. and Mikayla S.

Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club

New City Name: Alienville

Takes place: Rural/suburbs

Buildings: Made from teal and glass, and everything floats

Transportation: Hoverboards and teleportation

Food: You get alien food that looks like human food. Aliens eat by having a mini spaceship that gives them food.

Housing: Normal average houses with a force field around it using codes to get in the houses.

Jobs: Alien hunting, AlienEats, alien spies, janitors, teachers and educators, and guards.

Laws: When you do something bad, there is an alien vacuum, and when you go there, you face the alien judge.

Security: Code word: Wakanda forever. Black Panther and his guards fight the aliens of Alienville.

Survival priorities: Save lives, protect doorknobs, and use parrot delivery birds.

Team 3. Tools

Laura, Abby, Noel, and Melany
Full STEAM Ahead Conference

Laura and Abby

Day #1:

I work on the tools section. Since the porpoises were also killed by the rats, we used their bones and teeth to create things like spears and other weapons, utensils, and needles. Since they're waterproof, we will also use the skin of the porpoise to make bandages.

We will use grass to weave into baskets and make hoes out of skulls to grow peppers to make defense pepper spray. We also use the skulls of the porpoises to make helmets, bowls, and cups for a catapult. Since much glass broke during the rat infestation, we use it as weapons also. We grab bricks and widdle them until they are sharp and make rope from rat tails. My favorite invention, though, is porpoise muscle gum, also used as blankets.

Noel and Melany

Day #1:

Since all of porpoises were killed, we used their bones to create many tools, such as spears, saws, spoons, forks, and knives.

We also used their bones to create needles for the medical field and their skin as waterproof bandages. The porpoises' teeth are used as saws to build shirts.

Also, we used grass and wood as natural resources to create these tools. This is important to our other groups because they need to know what safety tools we plan to create.

Debating Using Ethos, Pathos, and Logos

#1. Should Students be able to Vote on School Lunches?

School Lunch Vote

Tristan S.

YMCA - Binford MS

I think students should vote on school lunches because then everyone gets to have a say in what they are eating. You get to eat the food that makes you happy. People won't hate Mondays or going to school anymore because they'll just be happy instead.

If students vote on school lunches, they can make sure they have food that doesn't contain allergens. This will make the school a safer place. Also, it will help voters become aware of the needs of their fellow students.

Should Students Vote on School Lunches?

David B. and Korboi M.

Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club

Logos: Most school food is nasty and moldy, so if we vote for other food options, it probably wouldn't be like that anymore.

Ethos: We'd make it so everybody can have their own opinion, and add a system for people who are allergic.

Pathos: The food options might make people feel mad, sad, or happy.

Vote for School Lunches

Ramiya P. and Kaliyah T.

Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club

Ethos: Voting can be fair because if the food group that gets the most votes that day wins, then the group of youth can eat what they voted on. We should be able to vote.

#2. Is Graffiti Artwork?

Can graffiti be considered art?

**Marie L., Jaylen G., and Shaniya T.
Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club**

Ethos: Graffiti is art. Even if the law doesn't like graffiti, some graffiti is art. Like it or not, graffiti artists might do graffiti because they want to.

Can graffiti be considered art?

**Ngozi F.E.F
HA – Binford MS**

Ethos (fairness): I know that it is only fair for graffiti to be considered as art because everyone should be allowed to have their own level and style of creativity.

Logos (facts): I think that younger people that continue to do graffiti will be able to do graffiti later.

Pathos (emotions): If people have the ability to do graffiti on the wall, it can impact others walking out of their houses going to work. It can make them feel relaxed and prepared for work.

Should graffiti be considered art?

**Yazmine J. and Faith P.W.
Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club**

Logos: Yes, because it's someone's creative mind.

Pathos: Graffiti is art because it's giving a beautiful message as well as brightening up peoples mindsets.

Ethos: It should be considered art because it's not fair that they can't express how they feel not on a canvas.

Opinions on Graffiti

Julissa M.C.

HA - Boushall MS

Can graffiti be considered art? I'll say yes. I first said no, but it looks pretty because if there is no art or graffiti, this place will look like a boring school without colors. Just plain white or creamy colors.

#3. When do we become adults? And, what are humans?

Being an Adult

Ford A.

HA – Binford MS

I'm here to argue to you how you will never mentally be an adult. You may age and look like one, but that means nothing. You are always learning more and more! Adulthood is legally 18, but this argument is much more complex. No one can become an adult because no one gains all knowledge. Also, not one person is fully "mature" because there is always still that juvenile, immature person inside you. It's not fair for some people to be considered adults and not others when we all have that level of immaturity.

Are Humans Animals?

Isjah L.

Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club

Logos: Humans are the only existing members of the sub-tribe Hominini. Together with chimpanzees, gorillas, and orangutans, they are a part of the family Hominidae.

Ethos: Us humans are the same as animals. Just because you're a human doesn't mean you're different than other animals.

Pathos: If we aren't animals, then we would be either space or plants, of which we are neither.

#4. Can cell phones be used as educational tools?

My Opinion

Catherine C.

HA - Boushall MS

I think cellphones should be used as educational tools because students can learn a lot quicker and understand a lot more with them than if a teacher is just talking.

Should Cellphones be Educational Tools?

Kevin G.

HA – Binford MS

Ethos (fairness): Cell phones should be used in class because, one, the calculator app. It helps you do math in math class. Phones are also good for depressed people. They get to be happy and less depressed by using them to get good grades.

Pathos (feelings): Cell phones give teachers breaks from annoying students. Teachers work all day and night grading papers and planning lessons. A break would be good for teachers. These factors help show why cellphones should be used in class.

#5. Should you be able to grade your teachers?

Teacher Grades

Kelsey C. and Jayda L.

Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club

Teachers get to grade us and mix their opinions with our moods, so we think that we should be able to do that to them. Our emotions are upset because teachers can say whatever they want. That could hurt our feelings. What we think is fair is that if we can't grade them, then they can't grade us. If we are not allowed to say what we want and hurt their feelings, then they can't put their opinions on us too.

A Pro M&M Speech

Ilan W.

YMCA - Binford MS

M&Ms have more variety. Most people like nuts, and even people who can't eat dairy eat M&Ms. M&Ms come in many colors and aren't sticky. People who are dairy intolerant avoid what they can't eat, but they still eat M&Ms. Meanwhile, Laffy Taffy is too sticky to chew and that isn't fun. Also, the jokes on the Laffy Taffy wrapper aren't funny.

M&M's Pros and Laffy Taffy Cons

Joseph S., Elizabeth S., and Julissa M.C.

HA - Boushall MS

Pros of M&M's

There are many different colors in one bag.

It's chocolate and not fruity. Fruity candy can make people sick.

Chocolate melts on your tongue and tastes good.

M&Ms have a commercial, and Laffy Taffy doesn't.

Cons of Laffy Taffy

It's hard to take it out of the bag.

It's fruity and disgusting.

It gets stuck in your teeth.

They only have a few flavors.

A Pro Laffy Taffy Speech

Tristan S.

YMCA - Binford MS

Laffy Taffy is better than M&Ms because it is cheaper. You can also find them individually. They have fun packaging, flavor, and jokes. I have seen a Laffy Taffy advertisement, and some people like the jokes.

Word Searches

*Word searches have hidden words that you must find.
Our word searches have facts about ourselves!*

Jayce A.
Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club

D	R	I	V	E	Y	C	O	K	F
R	P	W	Q	S	V	R	U	N	L
U	Q	O	Q	F	Q	O	E	V	R
N	N	R	P	K	L	U	A	I	Z
I	X	K	P	W	S	Y	M	P	F
N	W	O	E	X	W	X	O	L	O
G	Z	U	G	O	O	D	N	A	O
Z	I	T	C	O	U	X	E	Y	D
B	R	E	A	T	H	I	N	G	X
C	Y	Q	E	I	D	I	O	N	M
A	X	W	V	I	E	I	N	G	I
Q	W	A	S	V	A	K	Q	I	L
P	V	T	Z	W	G	Q	Y	G	I
R	U	O	X	Z	Q	P	S	S	N
O	R	R	E	A	D	I	N	Y	G

Word Bank

DRIVE OUTSIDE RUN FIRE

MONEY WORKOUT FLY PLAYING

READING BREATHING FOOD GOOD

**Da'yonna M.
Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club**

F	G	L	P	B	O	H	A	T	D
N	A	P	M	O	A	D	Q	R	N
S	T	R	O	R	H	O	A	I	T
L	K	M	F	N	S	W	I	M	Q
E	L	O	I	T	Q	N	O	O	N
P	R	O	N	L	F	F	U	M	S
T	Z	N	Q	E	V	A	T	N	T
N	Y	A	O	A	U	K	S	O	R
O	X	O	L	T	O	U	I	T	O
B	T	E	I	P	H	S	D	A	N
R	L	I	F	T	H	I	E	E	G
M	Y	S	E	L	F	N	N	R	J
N	D	K	O	T	D	B	O	G	G
H	I	N	I	S	G	K	J	O	L
S	P	I	D	E	R	S	E	M	S

Word Bank

BORN
SPIDERS
DRAW
SLEPT
GREAT

FAMILY
EAT
SWIM
OUTSIDE

NOTHING
MOM
MYSELF
LIFE
STRONG

Destiny W.
Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club

S	A	M	U	S	I	C	J	H	O
N	K	B	H	W	I	L	K	I	D
P	I	I	C	A	H	X	L	R	I
I	H	J	P	D	P	P	A	M	A
N	I	F	K	M	E	W	A	I	I
K	A	L	E	W	A	X	M	U	S
L	M	K	F	H	S	T	G	W	T
W	Y	Z	H	I	L	A	H	L	H
S	U	M	M	E	R	C	A	M	P
I	J	K	L	M	I	N	O	P	Q
B	K	S	W	I	M	M	I	N	G
L	J	I	N	W	T	E	N	L	H
U	I	I	Z	X	U	R	O	M	I
E	H	I	H	Y	V	S	P	O	K
S	N	A	K	E	S	A	B	C	D

Word Bank

BLUE
 PINK
 SWIMMING

SUMMER CAMP
 MUSIC
 SNAKES

SKIP MATH
 DRAW

Mikayla S.
Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club

F	M	U	R	O	S	Y	B	H	Y
D	E	P	M	F	X	T	R	N	X
P	T	A	W	N	P	S	A	P	Z
O	E	D	O	S	U	U	C	O	O
W	O	N	R	P	O	N	E	S	U
Z	R	X	M	I	S	A	L	P	M
P	O	O	U	D	V	H	E	G	Q
S	L	U	W	E	G	E	T	U	W
E	O	P	P	R	E	N	M	M	S
O	G	F	D	S	F	O	A	U	F
T	Y	C	S	P	C	P	K	L	G
A	Y	M	Y	F	A	M	I	L	Y
M	P	R	U	N	N	I	N	G	F
O	L	E	A	T	S	U	G	A	R
T	H	G	I	R	B	U	M	G	C

Word Bank

COOKING DINNER
 METEOROLOGY
 RUNNING

BRIGHT
 DRIVE
 SPIDERS

TOMATOES
 MY FAMILY
 BRACELET MAKING

**Word searches have hidden words that you must find.
Our word searches have facts about ourselves!
What would you hide in your Word Search?**

Word Bank

**In Project Write Now!
and Teen Scene...**

**each of us has a
creative voice!**

HAPPY READING!

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