

Study of Water and Land Prepares Students for Earth Day

In honor of Earth Day, West U. Elementary students in Lori Levitt's kindergarten class engaged in an interactive data collection activity.

Led by Dr. Robin A. Ward, clinical assistant professor and associate director for curriculum integration for the Rice University School Mathematics Project team, students predicted the earth's water-to-land ratio, then took turns rolling a globe and stopping it with their index fingers. Pupils charted how many times the globe was stopped on land vs. water, and Ward spearheaded a discussion about earth's composition of three-fourths water and one-fourth land.

Furthering this hands-on earth study, students discussed earth facts from children's literature, offering a unique opportunity for students to connect literature with mathematics, science and geography.

Ward, who is also a West U. Elementary parent, has taught several interactive classes during the 2007/2008 academic year as part of the school's science curriculum as an H.I.S.D. magnet school.



West U. Elementary students in Lori Levitt's kindergarten class learn about the earth's composition by participating in an interactive globe-rolling activity.

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