

Balancing Ball 2008

Notes for the Future

The Balancing Ball snack was an overall success and the kids and parents both enjoyed the hands on experiment. Our exhibit was very popular with the kids as when one would try the experiment and the noise of the blow dryer would draw attention and tons more kids would want to try it.

For our exhibit we used:

One hair dryer-borrowed from Mr. Baird

Leaf blower-borrowed from Mr. Baird

Three beach balls-purchased from Wal-Mart with area to decorate with
makers, 20'' diameter

Three ping pong balls-taken from home, we brought extra just in case some
were lost

Two balloons-one borrowed from Mr. Baird and one brought from home

B. Our setup was that of an inside station with the hair dryer and an outside station with the leaf blower. And actually the hair dryer did not work as well as we would like, because the hair dryer only has the hot air, didn't have the cool air. So when we were using the hair dryer to blow the ping pong ball up, it gets the ball really hot and almost melt the ping pong balls. And also the hair dryer was over heated twice during the day time and over heated once at night. The location of the outside exhibit was troubling. We located to the lawn outside of the Physics rooms, between B Wing and the portables. However, we could not really get attention this way. Therefore, we relocated to the outside of the Physics room. Then it works so much better, we actually got so many attentions. All the kids liked the exhibit and enjoyed playing with it outside.

C. Overall, I felt went well. The exhibit was interactive but was frustration because attempts to teach the kids anything were generally thwarted. The thing we probably would have

wanted to know how hard it was to actually inform not just entertain.