

Grace: Today for Explorer's Club, we will be showing you an integrated arts project our class has worked on with Mrs. Post. For the past two months, we have been studying Native American and African cultures, both in our classroom and in Mrs. Post's classroom. Some of the things we did were:

Elizabeth: Go to the MSU Museum to see an exhibit there on the Mali Mud Cloths. At the museum, we had an opportunity to learn some African dances and see real textiles made by African people. We studied the different cloths and presented what we learned to our class.

Colton: Mrs. Post taught us the Fungi Alafia dance, and the traditional African gumboot dance.

Alexander: We also got to make our own Mali Mud Cloths. Two men from Mali, who spoke French, came to our school and taught us how to make a Mali mud cloth.

Kyle: Malians make mud cloths by decorating them with symbols that represent important things in their lives. They wear their mud cloths at special times all throughout their lives like at their weddings, when a child is born, and even when they die.

Megan: The mud cloths are made by weaving thread, then using mud to paint symbols on the cloth. You let the mud set for about 20 minutes, then rinse it off in water and stretch it out. After that, you allow the cloth to dry in the sun. Many of us are wearing our Mali Mud Cloths.

Justin K.: Mrs. Langelier read us some Malian legends and stories that have been passed down. We even got to listen to Malian music during writing time.

__Kierstyn__: We have also been studying about the Native Americans who lived in Michigan. In our classroom, we have read about the Native Americans in our social studies text books. We also researched Native Americans and Africans during our computer lab time.

__Kayla__: We did group presentations in our social studies class. We taught about Native Americans such as Techumseh and Pontiac, as well as Pontiac's War.

__Chase__: We learned how to write a compare and contrast paper in Writing Workshop. For our final paper, we wrote a four-paragraph compare and contrast paper about Native Americans' and Africans' Culture. Madison will read a part of her paper now.

__Madison__: (Read from your paper).

__Paige__: Finally, in Mrs. Langelier's class, we wrote a poem about the Native Americans in Michigan. After we wrote our poem, we brought the poem to Mrs. Post, and in Creative Arts, we put movement to our poem and used a drum beat.

__Kirsten__: We will now perform our poem "I have made a Footprint," for you. Hope you enjoy our presentation.

(Perform Footprint)

__Dylan__: Thank you for coming to Explorer's club! Please wait for your teachers to dismiss you, and have a great day!