



# Exploration Academy Newsletter

## DATES TO REMEMBER

No Before or After School  
Exploration Academy:  
Dec 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 - due  
to no school for Winter break

## THANK YOU!

We would like to recognize Community Health Centers of Southern Iowa (CHCSI) and Kayla Stalder as community partners. CHCSI generously donated money for the healthy snack at literacy night. Kayla Stalder has graciously donated her time to teaching the students about conservation and the world around them!

So many thank you's for the work that was put into the Harvest Hootenanny Literacy Night. Thank you to Adam Booth for the animated and entertaining stories. Thank you to the Dykens family for their dynamic musical talent and willingness to lead us in folk music! Thank you to Amy Sellars for organizing the evening and the many others that worked or contributed, including: Graceland GSEA for leading a fun instrument making booth, Sarah Burke and Alma Mickelson for the awesome decor and stage backdrop, Alice Sweeten for the awesome books for the book walk, Hannah Gruich and Kylie Sellars for the beautiful signs. Abby Jones for her fun illustrate a story booth, and the many other Elementary Teachers and Exploration Academy staff that worked on brainstorming, booths and clean up. Thank you also to the custodial staff that helped set up tables and chairs and get the spaces exactly how we needed them!

## ACTIVITIES WE DID IN NOVEMBER

We had the Harvest Hootenanny Literacy Night in early November with guest storyteller, Adam Booth. We had over 100 students and family members in attendance. Thank you so much for joining us!

Kayla Stalder, Decatur County Naturalist, visited us twice in November to lead activities and groups with the students. Kayla provided students learning experiences with trees and leaves. Students made leaf rubbings on foil and used markers to make them colorful. Their favorite activity was learning about earth worms and meeting them up close and personal. Some of us got closer than others. Did you know that when you pull a worm apart, the head can grow another tail?!

We have been busy in the STEAM room. We have discovered we have talented music writers using the IPADs to create songs.

We love legos! Students created their own lego characters and then participated in STEM card lego challenges. Everyone did a great job.

We continued our walking field trip to the Public Library every Wednesday for reading.

We closed out November with Snowman names in art.

## CONTACT INFO

Email:  
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@gmail.com

For after school change of plans,  
please contact Sheryl Harrison at  
641-784-3422







## JOIN US ON REMIND APP

If you haven't already, join our Exploration Academy group in Remind for important announcements, updates and changes. Sign up for our group with the following code on your smart device: Enter this number: 81010 and text: @93c997 or type in the link: <https://www.remind.com/join/93c997>

## REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR DECEMBER



To register your child for Exploration Academy after school program, please fill the form out at the following web address:

<https://goo.gl/forms/pJQ8JbAWAE4jD7pE3>



## NEW STAFF MEMBERS!



Katy Frizzell



Dixie Dykens



Brett Boswell