## Joint Institute for Nuclear Astrophysics

## **JINA Visits to Elementary Schools**



JINA visited two elementary schools during this semester. A scientist met with all 111 K-6 students at St. John's Catholic School in Goshen, IN over the course of one day. Kindergartners and 1st grade students discussed what scientists do before drawing themselves as scientists. They finished by writing about the scene they drew in the picture. Students in grades 2-5 learned Newton's laws and problem solving skills through creating flying fish from household materials such as manila folders and playing cards. At the end of the day, students were asking when JINA would return to their school.

IINA also sent a scientist to Orchard View Elementary in Middlebury, IN to meet with all 70 1st grade students who were studying matter. Indiana education standards focus on the process of observation for this age group. Therefore, the 30 minute lessons focused on using sight, sound, touch, and smell to observe a variety of objects at room temperature and again at 77 K after they'd been frozen in LN2. The students were amazed, and many commented that they wanted to be scientists after the lesson.

Students in New Carlisle, IN often cross the street to the public library for after-school activities. JINA led one activity on constellations for a group of 30.

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