JINA partnered with the St. Joseph County Parks staff at St. Patrick's Park in South Bend for an Astronomy based Art week for the 3rd time during the summer. 12 students entering grades 3-4 attended the camp. JINA provided a scientist, an artist from New Creations, and some supplies for the camp. The students were enthralled by science lessons on topics such as the life cycle of a star, and were highly engaged in art projects that combined astronomy concepts with imagination and creativity. Students used mediums such as chalk, scratch art, clay and bubble printing to understand topics including planets, stars, constellations, and galaxies. The camp also included science themed nature walks, kayaking, and archery. At the end of the camp, 100% agreed or strongly agreed that science is interesting and fun, and rated the camp 5 out of 5. We will partner again for a “Mad Scientist” camp in the summer of 2013.

Right: Students learn about the phases of the moon while making Vietnamese moon lanterns.

Above: Finished lunar landscapes using glue (for outlines) and chalk pastels. Below: Students are eager to try marbleized printing techniques to create galaxy swirls.

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