

Features

Marston's Safari

Internet Applications Class Creates Animal Websites



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Sports Editor

Book-work, vocabulary, and memorization are definitely not the only way to learn here at Lake Shore. Ms. Marston, a teacher here at Lake Shore decides to take a different approach for her Internet Applications class. Their class assignment was to design a website on an animal of a second grade student's choice and then implement graphic styles, designs and layouts. These websites include knowledge that you wouldn't know, such as characteristics, longevity, what they eat and their habitat, which that student develops on the page. Marston decided to take this hands on approach of teaching because she says she is a very creative person. She knows that her students don't fully retain their learnings from lectures, or book-

work. "What could I do with my students that wouldn't be just teaching them code?" Marston thought. Then the websites came into play, which teaches code, but also teaches design elements and allows students get to create their own styles. "It's

games were only created just in case the student got done early answering the questions, but of course the games were usually the first things visited. The factual websites were initially created for a specific student in Joan Grassi's (teacher

elements of design and color schemes, not just codes. But, in addition to design, the students had to use the html code for their website.

On Thursday, December 18th, the high school students presented their websites to

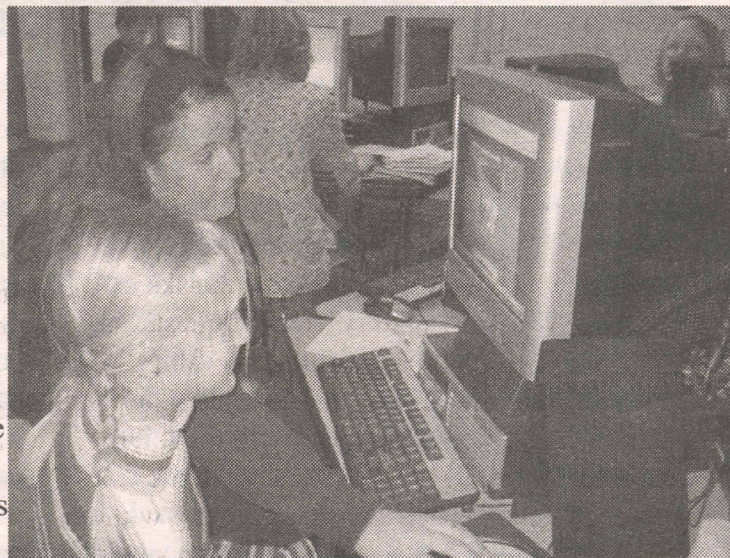


Photo Courtesy Of: Ms. Marston.
Karen Durka working with a student from Violet Elementary.

a service learning project and is really authentic," Marston states.

Not only did the students create the "boring" parts of the websites including the knowledge and questions, but they created activities for the kids. Each website had to include three activities, which could include crosswords, wordsearches and mazes dealing with that animal. The

at Violet Elementary) second grade class. Grassi had her students choose from a list of very obscure animals such as starfish or a boa constrictor. Once the animal choices were turned in the websites began to be created. It took the Internet Applications class two weeks to create these sites. The class used a site called "Weebly," which is a plug in website that deals with

the elementary students. The students of Ms. Marston's class walked the students through the questions and helped them locate the answers with patience and leadership skills. In addition to, "the selfless acts of kindness," writes Marston,

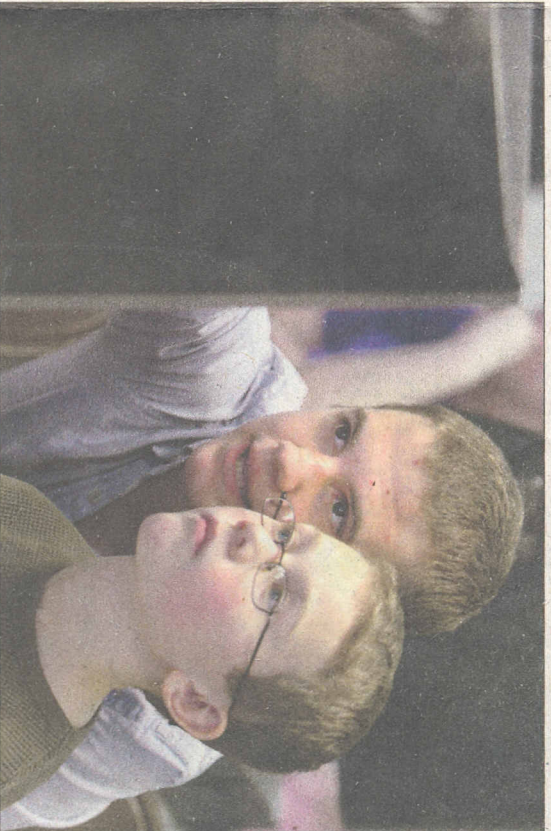
the second graders also received stuffed animals, activity books, play-doh and other items as a thanks for being cooperative. These websites proved that students of the Internet Applications class can learn without taking tests, or studying the code verbatim. Nice job students of Ms. Marston's class for being so selfless and spreading your knowledge to a younger generation.



DESIGNING STUDENTS

Right: Lake Shore High School senior Kenny Batturst built this Web site called "Charlie the Crocodile." The high school students in Tasha Marston's Internet Applications class designed Web sites with ideas from Violet Elementary School's second-grade students. Above: Violet Elementary School second-grader Lauren Livernols reads "World of Animals," a book given to her by Lake Shore High School junior Jennifer Fuchs.

Photos by David Schreiber



Above: Lake Shore High School Internet Applications student Zachary Menzo, a senior, and Violet Elementary School second-grader Joshua Lopetrone study their animal Web site. Web sites were created and constructed by the Lake Shore students thanks to ideas from the Violet students.

