



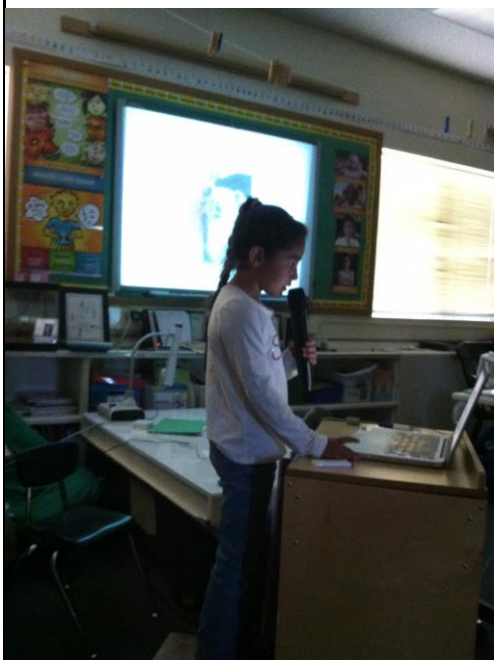
Los Alamos Public Schools

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PRESS RELEASE

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Mountain First Graders Present Their Research Using Keynote



On Friday, May 20th, Mr. Johnson's first grade class presented Keynote speeches to an audience of their peers, parents and grandparents.

The students chose topics that interested them to research, including deadly snakes, blue jays, Star Wars, war planes, Zootopia, dragons and adverbs.

During the months that led up to the speeches, the students conducted independent research, collaborated with partners to exchange feedback, explored the Keynote computer program, practiced getting on the server, opening multiple windows, copying pictures into their slide show, and practicing getting up in front of an audience.

Mr. Johnson explained that he was introducing the class to project based learning.

This particular project included most of the elements of PBL, such as learning content, gaining 21st century skills, exploring open ended questions, having the opportunity to make a choice about their project, a revision process, and presenting their work in front of a public audience.

"It's important that they learn skills that they will use in the future," said Mr. Johnson, who noted that his class became more comfortable with public speaking with practice. "When we did this at the beginning of the year some of the students struggled to get up in front of the class. But by the end of the year they didn't bat an eye standing in front of a large audience."

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