

Fourth Grade Focus: South Korea

Global Week 2019 - Lower School

Ms. Quaid's fourth-grade class had an exciting Global Week. We studied the country of South Korea!

We began the week learning about the land and climate here. Students created a map of the country and labeled the capital, major cities, surrounding bodies of water, and major rivers. We discussed various landforms from the T'aebaec Mountains in the east to the coastal plains in the west where agricultural land is found. Students became familiar with the farm products, major industries, and natural resources.

We moved on to study the flag of South Korea next. Students drew the flag and listed facts on the back, learning what each symbol represents.

Throughout the week, many Korean games were introduced. Students learned Yut-Nori, Ddakji, and Gonggi, which is similar to the American game of jacks. Yut-Nori involves throwing sticks that are flat on one side and rounded on the other to see how many spaces you can move your mal, or piece. Students played with the actual Korean game pieces and made a replica to play at home.

Paper folding and paper crafting remain an important part of Korean culture.

Jong-i-jeobgi (origami) is commonly taught to schoolchildren as part of lessons on art, science, math, and history. Students constructed Ddakji disks using origami. Next, they paired up to play the game. Students took turns throwing their disk at their opponents to try and flip it over.

We discussed traditional Korean cuisine, including the popular dish bibimbap (rice mixed with assorted vegetables and rice). We sampled Korean beef tacos, cabbage slaw, and hoddeok. All dishes were a hit. They especially liked hoddeok, which are Korean sweet pancakes with a syrup filling of brown sugar and cinnamon.

We viewed some traditional Korean dances including the fan dance. Students painted their own paper fans and added feathers for a more dramatic look. Dance is an important tradition practiced in the Korean culture.

We also watched a short film and read many books on popular tourist attractions in South Korea. At the end of the week, students wrote a letter detailing their “experience in South Korea” to a family member or friend.

A visit to Feed My Starving Children was a great way to end Global Week. Students packed 156 boxes including 33,696 meals that will feed 92 children in one year!